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ARAB ECONOMIC, SOCIAL COUNCIL MEETING CONTINUES

9 July Meeting

JN091923 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] The special session of the Arab Economic and Social Council resumed its meetings this evening to discuss the decisions adopted by the political and economic committees stemming from the council and issues included on the agenda and to put the finishing touches on the council's final statement, which will be announced at the end of the meeting.

The economic and political committees held two meetings during which a strategy for joint Arab economic action, its priorities and programs was adopted. An Arab political strategy was also laid down in order to confront the Zionist enemy and define the future Arab and international steps which will be adopted in support for the fateful issues.

Final Statement

JN100809 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0615 GMT 10 Jul 80

[Text] Amman, 10 July--Following is the text of the final statement of the special session of the Arab Economic and Social Council:

Final Statement Issued by the Special Session of the Arab Economic and Social Council Held in Amman 6-9 July, 1980

In implementation of the second resolution of the 14th Clause of the resolutions of the 10th Arab Summit Conference held in Tunis 20-22 November, 1979, and in response to an invitation extended by the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the special session of the Arab Economic and Social Council convened on the level of the Arab foreign, economy and finance ministers in the period of 6-9 July, 1980.

His Majesty King Husayn of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan addressed the council with an opening speech in which he defined the framework of joint Arab economic action, its foundations and objecties, indicating the importance of establishing sound bases for Arab economic relations in a manner that insures the Arab nation's interests and strengthens its international position. He also pointed out the need for commitment to what is planned and for fulfillment of what is pledged.

The council decided to consider His Majesty King Husayn's speech as one of the council's official documents.

In the economic field, the council reviewed the economic situation and relations among the Arab countries and defined their areas of strength and weakness. It stressed the need to bolster the Arab integration development march and affirmed that joint Arab action is the basic method of facing challenges and that pan-Arab efforts are dictated by pan-Arab obligations, as well as by regional interests and economic nationalism.

The discussions also stressed the importance of work on three pan-Arab axes, in addition to pan-Arab development efforts, with their sound pan-Arab dimensions.

The council stressed, first, the need to intensify and consolidate economic relations among the Arab countries, secondly, the need to employ Arab-international economic relations in the service of pan-Arab interests and issues; and thirdly, the need to confront the exacerbating Zionist-Israeli danger.

The discussion showed that joint action is not a substitute for, but supports, completes and interacts with regional action, provided that the two are in harmony within a joint pan-Arab conceptual framework. Within this framework, the Arab economic and social council has approved the strategy of joint Arab economic action until the year 2000. This strategy represents a historic turning point for the Arab economic march, because it pursues the objectives of Arab unity, development, liberation and integration and adopts long-term planning for development, with a view to achieving production integration as a means of reorganizing and developing Arab resources in the joint economic sector, as well as of rationalizing the exploitation of these resources. The strategy adopts a system of integrated development, giving special importance to human aspects. The development of human resources and the acquisition of technological ability were given absolute priority. The strategy also gave priority to the subject of food security, in view of its connection to pan-Arab security. Basic industrialization and the development of infrastructure were prominent among the basic goals, in addition to the consolidation of the Arab homeland's defense capability.

The discussions of the Arab Economic and Social Council proceeded from the central and basic concept that the Arab nation will be facing great dangers in the future, calling for joint action by which to cope with them and to achieve national security and development, which are basic factors in facing the great challenges represented by division, backwardness, imperialism and subservience in all its forms; and will also be facing the new dangers resulting from the 70's and the capitulatory Camp David accords. In dealing with all of these, the basic objectives of the strategy centered on four main points: national security in its broadest sense; confrontation with the Zionist existence by building intrinsic Arab power; development in its comprehensive sense and the need to accelerate it, in order to narrow the gap within the Arab homeland; and finally, the development of Arab economy and the strengthening of organic links among its various components, so that it can assume its appropriate place within the new international economic order.

The economic and social council has requested that the general department for economic affairs recommend joint development programs and projects for the Arab economy for the 1981-1985 period, in accordance with this strategy, and determine the total appropriations for these programs and projects, so that the necessary finances can be appropriated and approved by the next Arab summit.

Also within the framework of this strategy, the council decided to assign "a decade for joint Arab development," in accordance with a proposal by Iraq. The purpose of this is to help narrow the development gap among the various parts of the Arab homeland. The 80's were considered the first decade for joint Arab development. It was decided that the necessary funds will be made available by those Arab states that can contribute a certain reasonable percentage of their national income. Iraq proposed that the sum of $1.5 billion be allocated annually for this purpose and that the summit conference establish the rules by which each country can benefit from this sum, so as to achieve continuous growth and increase per capita income in the 80's.

During this special session, several Arab delegations submitted important working papers and proposals. The council has entrusted a six-man committee to examine them, alongside the Iraqi proposal, and to submit its recommendations to the next meeting of the Arab Economic and Social Council, prior to submitting them to the next Arab summit.

The council also formed a committee comprising nine Arab governments and the assistant secretary general for economic affairs, to evaluate and examine means of strengthening the national organizational structure within the Arab League. The council also referred to the next ordinary meeting of the economic and social council, which will be held in September, 1980, all topics that could not be discussed due to lack of time.

The council discussed a number of topics on the means of confronting the Zionist enemy and its aggressive expansionist policy in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and of containing and facing the dangers resulting from the naturalization of relations between the Egyptian regime and Israel.

The council also reviewed the means of bolstering the Arab people's resistance in the occupied Arab territories and affirmed the need to insure the necessary capabilities to strengthen this resistance. After discussing and analyzing the latest developments in the Palestine question, the council reached the following results:

1. The council affirms that the principles set out by the resolutions of the Arab summit conferences in Baghdad and Tunis--condemning the U.S. policy, rejecting the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, stressing the need for complete withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and guaranteeing the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, especially their right to return to their homeland, determine their own destiny without outside interference and establish their independent state on their national soil--all of these principles and the continued commitment to them constitute the basis for Arab solidarity and joint action.

The council believes that the Arab nation is facing a serious test at this phase in view of the continuous attempts by the Camp David partners to plot against its central issue, Palestine, as demonstrated by the normalization of relations between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity; the implementation of criminal plans against the Palestinian people in the occupied territory, through the continuous building of settlements in Palestine and the occupied Arab territories; the continuation of the autonomy conspiracy, under the Camp David pla.., to resettle Palestinian refugees and to expel the Palestinian people from their homeland; and the continuous Zionist enemy aggression against Lebanon and the south, to undermine that Arab country's unity and independence.

2. After studying the current situation in all its aspects, the council believes that the Camp David policy and Israel's aggressive plans have ruled out the possibility of a just settlement at present, because of the imbalance created by the Egyptian regime's transfer to the hostile camp and the increasing U.S. support for the Zionist enemy in all fields.

3. The council expresses its profound appreciation of the heroic struggle waged by the Palestinian people inside and outside occupied Palestine, under the leadership of the PLO. The council praised the Palestinian people's sacrifices in facing the occupation and all forms of systematic and official Zionist terrorism, in trying to topple the autonomy conspiracy and to preserve their national identity, land, holy places and national heritage. The council also hails the struggler leaders who were deported by the Zionist occupation authorities and whose lives were jeopardized and therefore became the shining symbol of national struggle. The council affirms the need to increase all forms of aid, to strengthen the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied homeland, and to continue efforts on the international level to expose, condemn and contain Zionist terrorism.

4. The council considers the normalization of relations between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity to be a grave danger to the Arab nation, including the Egyptian people. The council discussed the necessary measures to implement the Baghdad and Tunis summit resolutions on boycotting the Egyptian regime and to tighten this boycott.

5. The council considers the Egyptian regime's threats and military concentrations on the border with Libya to be part of the Camp David plans. Thus, the council declares its solidarity with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, thereby confirming its commitment under the Arab collective defense pact.

6. In regard to political work on the international level, the council affirms the rejection of any action not deriving from the objectives defined by the Arab nation in the Arab summit conferences, particularly the ninth and tenth summit conferences in Baghdad and Tunis. The council also believes that Resolution 242 does not conform with the Arab nation's pan-Arab rights, especially with regard to the Palestine question, which is the crux of the conflict, and that the Arab stand depends upon the UN resolutions concerning the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, particularly Resolution 3236, which is considered a basis for solving the Palestine question.

7. The council recommends coordination of the Arab-European dialogue on the following foundations:

A. Political and economic issues are not to be separated and the dialogue is to be held on a political level;

B. The Arab states will seek, through the dialogue, the recognition of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, in accordance with the UN resolutions concerning the Palestine question and the representation of the Palestinian people.

8. The council calls for reactivating Arab-African cooperation, on the basis of isolating the Egyptian regime from all organizations and agencies of cooperation.

9. The council affirms the need to adopt the necessary measures to preserve Arab rights, in light of the attempts by certain countries to resume their relations with the Zionist enemy or to recognize Jerusalem as its capital.

10. The council decided to form a committee comprising foreign ministers of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Republic of Iraq and the State of Kuwait, as well as the head of the PLO Political Department and the Arab League secretary general. This committee will be in charge of drafting a comprehensive strategy to face the Zionist enemy in the coming phase.

The council was briefed by the head of the Somali delegation on the military situation on his country's border with Ethiopia. In sympathy with the fraternal Somali people, the council commissioned the Arab League secretary general to investigate the facts in this situation and to submit a report in this regard to the next session of the Arab League Council.

The council expresses gratitude and appreciation to the king, government and people of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for hosting the conference and for insuring all of the means for its success.

OFFICIAL ARRIVES 11 JULY FOR MINISTERS MEETING

Az-Zuhayri Arrival

JN091235 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Qasim az-Zuhayri, Islamic Conference Organization assistant secretary general, arrived in Amman this morning at the head of an official General Secretariat delegation. He will participate in the emergency session of the Islamic foreign ministers which will be held in Amman the day after tomorrow, Friday. The session will last 2 days.

Chatti Arrival

JN092049 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Excerpt] Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, arrived in Amman this evening to take part in the meetings of the emergency session of the Islamic countries' foreign ministers due to open in Amman on Friday to discuss the situation in the occupied Arab territories.

KING HUSAYN TO OPEN ISLAMIC CONFERENCE 11 JULY

JN100914 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 10 Jul 80

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn will open the meetings of the Islamic states foreign ministers conference in Amman tomorrow morning, 11 July. During its 2-day meetings, the conference will discuss the general situation in the occupied territories, with particular emphasis on Jerusalem. Some 42 Islamic states, in addition to the PLO and certain other institutions deriving from the Islamic Conference Organization, will take part in the conference. The Jordanian delegation to the conference is headed by Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim.

This conference is being convened at the request of the PLO, after the Israeli aggression against the Nabulus and Ramallah mayors.

EAST MEDITERRANEAN HEALTH MINISTERS BEGIN MEETING

JN092059 Amman Domestic Television Service in English 2000 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Health ministers representing the East Mediterranean countries opened a 4-day conference in Amman today. Among the topics to be discussed is the possible transfer of the World Health Organization's regional office from Alexandria to Amman.

SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER GRANTS TV INTERVIEW

JN092143 Amman Domestic Television Service in English 2000 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text of interview granted by Saudi Foreign Minister Price Sa'ud al-Faysal to an unidentified Jordanian television correspondent--videotaped; date not given]

[Text] [Question] Your Highness, I would like to welcome you to Jordan first of all.

One of the proposals to strengthen Arab economic relations has been to sell oil to nonoil-producing Arab countries at preferential prices. What is the stand of Saudi Arabia on this issue?

[Answer] The problem facing the Arab world in the economic field is not a problem of preferential prices of any raw material. It is a problem of development, general development, and integration in the economic field.

In this regard, I think, the problem as regards to the aspects your question deals with, which is sale of oil and prices of oil, is a balance of payment, for the oil is a raw material like any other raw material. It is bought and sold on a trading relationship. The effect on some of the countries in the Arab world, nonoil-producing countries let us say this time, has been on their balance of payment. This is the problem, we think, therefore, the way to deal with this is not through preferential oil prices, which will disrupt any market, but through the impact that can be provided on the balance of payments, and through providing funds to help in the balance of payment problems from the countries who can provide funds for this to the countries who are in need of it, and not through the preferential prices in oil.

The other side of the question, balance of payment is important because development requires imports of goods and services. The other side of it is funds for development, so that development in the Arab world becomes a widespread development, and for this we think the best method is to provide the capital requirements for this, the funds necessary for development as well as removing any inhibitions or restrictions to the free mobility of resources in the Arab world. This is really the thrust of the ideas presented to this conference by Saudi Arabia.

[Question] Your Highness, Saudi Arabia has always called for keeping the Arab region free of external intervention. Would you outline the basic elements of such a plan?

[Answer] We are part of the world. It is facing many problems. The Israeli problem has tackled the resources of the Arab world. It is a problem that has been inflicted on this world. On the other side, we are from a region of the world with our own capabilities, human and natural. And we think, therefore, attaining our independence in all fields is necessary requisite for obtaining our objectives. This is why we think that cooperation among the Arab countries and solidarity are the basic premise for obtaining this freedom.

[Question] Your Highness, in view of the discussions undertaken by the Arab foreign and economy ministers here, how do you envisage the future of Arab economic cooperation?

[Answer] We hope that we can build on the existing framework that has proved its beneficial role in this field. We hope that we can in our cooperation, if there are any inhibitions to the free mobility of resources in the Arab world, we can remove these resources [as heard], the institutionalization of this activity so that we remove many of the contradictions or some of the inhibitions that exist in the institutional framework of this development. We have specific proposals in this regard that we have submitted to the conference and they are being studied. We hope that we can make decisions on them.

[Question] Your Highness, as you know, there is another foreign ministers conference due to be held in Amman on Friday, which is the Islamic foreign ministers conference. Saudi Arabia is taking part in the conference. Are there any papers Saudi Arabia is going to submit to the conference?

[Answer] As you know, the Palestinian issue is the main issue in the Islamic conference. It has been so since the initiation of the Islamic conference, since the burning of the Al-Quds mosque by the Zionists. And it is an issue that is constantly being pursued by the conference, especially at this period.

I think it is very important that the attention of the Islamic world turns again completely on this issue, especially since we see now a new effort by Israel to implement its policy of driving out the Palestinian people from the rest of Palestine and to further extend its policy of aggression against the Arab and the Islamic worlds. [Words indistinct] the policies as regard the Islamic world towards this question have been very clear. We hope that this conference will review ways and means of implementing the decisions of the previous conferences as well as tackling the issue in the international field.

DECISION TO CLOSE PLO OFFICES IN LEBANON REVIEWED

LD071431 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 2 Jul 80 p 11

[Beirut dispatch: "Why Did the Resistance Close Its Offices? Abu 'Ammar Forestalls Sedition; Three Suspicious Statements Distributed in Sidon"]

[Excerpts] Beirut, Al-Quds Press--After closing down four offices on the first day, the Palestinian resistance has continued to close its offices in Sidon and Beirut in accordance with the decision made by Abu 'Ammar [PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat] to close the military offices within one week. The situation in Sidon was debated during several meetings held in Beirut by the joint command of the Palestinian Resistance and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement. During the meetings which were held toward the end of last week, it was agreed that Abu 'Ammar would visit Sidon at the head of Palestinian Resistance command delegation. On Tuesday, Abu 'Ammar went to the city accompanied by Abu Jihad, Majid Abu Sharar, Abu Musa and Abu Hani. Resistance forces commander in southern Lebanon Al-Haj Isma'il met them on arrival.

In Sidon a series of meetings were held. The first meeting was with businessmen. The second meeting was held at the headquarters of the Lebanese-Palestinian joint operations command in the South. During the meeting it was agreed to:

1. Close all Palestinian Resistance offices, including the health and information centers and to transfer them to the camps.

2. Take deterrent measures against the contraveners.

3. Abolish armed manifestations and restrict the movement of military vehicles.

4. Check violations by certain elements.

Abu 'Ammar described the closure decision "as expressing the wish of the resistance not to annoy the citizens or obstruct commercial activities. The decision will be implemented within the maximum period of one week. We will be prepared to implement all the requests you make through the legitimate authorities."

Abu Salih said: "The decision to close down the offices will not be restricted to Sidon but will include all the Lebanese towns and will be implemented in stages.

The decision by the resistance to close its office came after a series of political developments in the south. During his meetings with the general secretaries of all the Palestinian groups, 'Arafat described these developments as "aiming to blockade us in Beirut and to deal us a blow in the south."

From a series of incidents that took place in Sidon the target appeared to be the presence of the Palestinian Resistance. The first incident was the clash which erupted at the Ar-Rumaylah roadblock when a Lebanese Army force of 250 officers and soldiers started a battle with a unit of the Arab army of Lebanon. [paragraph continues]

The situation developed and the fighting expanded to the city of Sidon. The Lebanese Army sustained 3 dead and 17 wounded, including 3 officers, and the Arab army of Lebanon suffered 2 dead during the clash. However, the political developments that followed the incident were more important than the clash. The Lebanese Army command issued a statement accusing the Palestinian resistance groups of establishing the Arab army of Lebanon and of opening fire on the Lebanese army. That was the first statement that mentioned the Palestinian resistance by name--a matter viewed by observers as a new development in the situation. What transpired about the Lebanese army command's statement aggravated the delicateness of the situation. Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss summoned the head of the fifth branch to his office to ask him, in his capacity as the official in charge of the army information service, about the reasons for issuing the statement. The head of the fifth branch said that he had nothing to do with the statement which, he said, the army commander had drafted and distributed to the radio and other information media. This matter increased the tension between the Lebanese nationalist movement and the Palestinian resistance on the one side and the Lebanese army command and the presidential palace on the other, because the text of the statement had been communicated to the president before it was issued.

The matter, however, was not confined to a military clash followed by a political wrangle, for despite the fact that the resistance had proposed the formation of a joint investigation committee to determine who was responsible for the clash and to punish the perpetrators, the city of Sidon witnessed a wave of very important developments. One week before the decision to close the resistance offices was made, a series of explosions occurred in stores in the heart of the city, causing damage estimated at 2 million pounds. The explosions were timed precisely at 10-minute intervals.

One day after the series of explosions three statements were distributed in certain parts of the city. The text of one of these statements is as follows: "He who dies for the sake of his property is a martyr; he who dies for the sake of his honor is a martyr and he who dies for the sake of his country is a martyr. Sons of Sidon, defenders of the homeland, you who defied the weapons of the foreigners [baljik--Arabic] and their mercenary collaborators with your continuous strikes and triumphed over them and over their collaborators despite your small number and your meager equipment. As long as you are believers, one hundred of you can defeat two hundred, God willing. The [Lebanese] army is from us and we are with it. Lebanese in Sidon, our salvation from the gangs which are arbitrarily dominating us can be achieved only through rallying around our legitimate authorities and its iron arm--our legitimate army. Support them both. Do not cooperate with the foreigners [baljik], their collaborators and every illegal armed person in Sidon. Do not sell to, buy from, enter into marriage or establish any relationship with any of them. If we triumph, Sidon will be honored by liberation, and it will be reunited and return as bright as the sun on Mount Sinnin. If we fail, God forbid, we will be among the first Muslim martyrs for the sake of our redeemed country--Lebanon.

The joint command in the city studied the situation and accused the army's second bureau of engineering the incidents, beginning with the clash at the Ar-Rumaylah roadblock and ending with the clashes and explosions in Sidon. This accusation was corroborated by the reemergence of the call for the deployment of the army in Sidon.

The Sidon discussions were resumed in Beirut. The joint forces central command held several meetings and agreed on the operation to close down the offices in order to prevent the suspect groups from continuing incitement against the Palestinian resistance, which the aforementioned statement describes as the baljik during the French mandate.

PLO OFFICIAL DENIES ISRAELI REPORTS ON WEST BANK BRIDGES

JN072031 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 2010 GMT 7 Jul 80

[Text] Amman, 7 July--PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar has denied reports on Israeli television this evening that the PLO and Syria submitted a proposal to the Arab foreign and economy ministers conference in Amman on closing the bridges between the occupied West Bank and Jordan.

In a statement to the GULF NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Amman, the Palestinian official said that Israeli information tries to fabricate lies that it attributes to the PLO, in order to shake confidence in it.

Abu Mayzar referred to a previous decision to encourage such bridges with the West Bank, because they strengthen the Palestinian people's steadfastness against the Zionist occupation forces.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES 'IMPORTANT' LETTER FROM SOVIET LEADERS

NC080636 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 8 Jul 80

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Brother Abu 'Ammar last night received Soviet Ambassador Comrade Aleksandr Soldatov. It has been learned that the Soviet ambassador handed the brother leader, Abu 'Ammar, an important letter from the Soviet leaders concerning the latest developments in the current situation in the Middle East and international developments.

PLO OFFICIAL DENOUNCES HUSAYN PLAN FOR GENEVA CONFERENCE

LD061306 Kuwait KUNA in English 1121 GMT 6 Jul 80

[Text] Kuwait, July 6 (KUNA)--King Husayn of Jordan is putting the final touches to a new plan for solving the Middle East crisis, AS-SIYASAH newspaper reported Sunday.

The paper quoted what it described as informed Arab political sources as saying that the Jordanian plan aims at holding a peace conference in Geneva to be attended by the disputing parties in the region together with the Soviet Union, the United States and representatives of the European Common Market and the United Nations.

The paper added that the new Jordanian plan is on the same lines as a previous plan for a federal state between Jordan and Palestine.

The Jordanian monarch started drawing up the main skeleton for this plan during visits he had paid to Arab and European countries last year, AS-SIYASAH said, adding that his last two visits to the United States and Britain were among the most important tours for exploring international trends before drafting the plan.

The paper said that the United States had supported this Jordanian effort for solving the Middle East crisis while discussing the plan with King Husayn during his visit to Washington. Husayn will also brief the Soviet leaders on his plan during a visit he will pay to Moscow before the holding of the Arab summit in Amman next November, the paper added.

AS-SIYASAH said when it conveyed the news of this plan to the member of the Central Committee of the Palestinian Al-Fatah movement Khalid al-Hassan, he denounced the idea of holding the Geneva conference on the basis that "the present situation does not need such a plan on the political level no matter how the idea is right or wrong."

Al-Hassan reiterated that the PLO should agree on any plan for solving the Middle East crisis before submitting it to the next Arab conference. He added that the Rabat conference held in 1974 had stressed that the PLO is the sole party to decide on any issue related to the Palestinian question.

Al-Hassan said if King Husayn had any particular ideas, he should brief the PLO before submitting them to the conference, and accordingly it is the stand of the PLO which should be introduced to the conference for discussion.

The Palestinian official said the PLO rejects the laying down of any preconditions for discussing the plan of a federal state and insists on its right to restore its land and the right of Palestinians for establishing their own state and enjoying their national independence.

COMMENTARY DISCUSSES ARAB RESPONSE TO U.S. ELECTIONS

LD041021 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 2 Jul 80 p 5

[Jihad al-Khazin article: "The Evils of the American Attitude"]

[Text] The vote that has taken place in the UN Security Council on the Israeli measures regarding Jerusalem has once again put Israel on one side and the rest of the world on the other. It has again shown the United States as collusive and an accomplice and abbetor of crime.

The most unfortunate thing in the whole matter is that the Islamic states which adopted the draft resolution had tried hard to couch it in specific delicate terms--so much so that Israel got away with much less than what it deserved--in the hope that the American administration would, this time, vote in favor of the draft resolution instead of abstaining again. But the United States again abstained from voting--an attitude of well-known cowardice tinged with malice. Had the Islamic states known from the beginning that the United States was going to abstain from voting, they would not have deleted the phrases in the draft resolution that matched in their sharpness the ugliness of the Israeli crime.

What the American administration must realize is that the Muslim states, particularly the Muslim Arab states, are not incapable of "punishing" the United States and that their patience with Carter's administration is a matter of policy and not of weakness.

The current Arab attitude is that Carter is better for us than Ronald Reagan and Edward Kennedy (who is still running for president). In other words, he is the lesser evil and, therefore, no measures should be taken to frustrate his chances of reelection. In other words, the moderate Arab states have decided to wait until after the American presidential elections. If Carter's rival is elected, they would adopt a policy toward him; but if Carter returns to the White House, they would expect him to reconsider his administration's recent attitude and to seek a genuine solution to the Middle East problem or lose the remaining friends of his country in the area. If the Iranian revolution has proved anything, it has proved that the United States and the Soviet Union put together can be resisted. If Iran could reduce its oil production to 15 percent of the rate it was producing during the shah's regime and at a time when it is experiencing violent internal disturbances, the stable oil-producing countries whose governments enjoy the support of their peoples can do more than Iran. Patience has limits and friendship cannot be a one-way street.

PLO RESEARCHERS ISSUE DETAILS OF PALESTINIAN POPULATION

LD071009 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 21 Jun 80 p 3

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT report: "First Palestinian Census Conducted by the PLO; 4.25 Million Palestinians in the World; Youth Numbers in the West Bank Diminish as a Result of Emigration"]

[Excerpts] Damascus--The PLO's Palestine National Fund has issued the first edition of a collection of statistics on Palestinians for the year 1979, containing data and indices reflecting the social and economic aspects of the Palestinian people in occupied Palestine, the Arab homeland and abroad.

According to the statistics, Palestinians all over the world total 4.25 million, distributed as follows:

West Bank (not including Jerusalem)		722,000
Gaza sector		416,000
The part of Palestine occupied in 1948 (including Jerusalem)		611,000
Jordan (the East Bank)		1,127,000
Syria		209,000
Lebanon		336,000
Kuwait		259,000
Iraq		19,000
Libya		19,000
Egypt	Estimated	47,000
Saudi Arabia	Estimated	180,000
The UAE, Qatar and remaining Gulf States	Estimated	115,000
America		100,000
Elsewhere abroad	Estimated	90,000
Total		4,250,000

The National Fund Palestinian central statistics office relied in its estimation of this figure on some demographic evidence available in some Arab states such as the rate of growth obtained by comparing two censuses or the rate of natural increase. Since the office could not obtain figures on the number of Palestinians in some Arab states and abroad, it derived its estimates from various research sources.

The collection, which runs to 300 foolscap pages, consists of 19 sections. The first deals with the geographic and natural characteristics of Palestine. The other sections deal with the demographic, social and economic characteristics of the Palestinians in the West Bank, Gaza sector, North Sinai, occupied Palestine and the Arab states, such as statistics on population, births, deaths, demographic characteristics, manpower, foreign trade, education, professions, economic activities and others.

The statistics contain facts that are at times exciting and at other times painful. In the West Bank, for example, the statistics show that the number of Palestinians between 30 and 44 years of age diminished by about 6.2 percent in 1977 compared to 1975. This indicates an increase in the number of young people emigrating from the West Bank to escape the yoke of Israeli rule.

The same applies to Gaza. The number of persons between 30 and 44 years of age was about 54,800 in 1975. This figure dropped to 54,100 in 1976 and later to 50,300, that is, 4,500 lower than in 1975.

KUWAIT

FOREIGN MINISTER WARNS OF INTERNAL THREATS TO GULF SECURITY

LD091340 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1214 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Excerpts] Sharja (Ash-Shariqah)--Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, Kuwait's deputy premier and foreign minister, said today that the security of the Arabian Gulf area is threatened from within and not from without.

In an interview with AL-KHALIJ of Sharja, he said he does not find it likely that an external invasion of the area by the United States or the Soviet Union would take place. He said the gulf's security is threatened "by internal security dangers" being fed by foreign quarters to stir up the area and make it unstable.

He explained that the internal security dangers do not come from local opposition, "and I cannot prevent revolution against certain situations. All people have the right to change any internal situations which they find unsuitable." He added that opposition movements are found in all states, "but I mean maintaining the gulf security against any internal sedition fed from abroad."

Shaykh Sabah called for establishing cooperation in the field of security between the area's states by means of exchanging data on those who intend to stir sedition. He said there should be coordination in the field of security to control the situation and prevent sedition.

The Kuwaiti minister said: There is no collective cooperation between the gulf states. Relations between those states vary. There are bilateral relations, but even those relations vary. What may appear to someone else as a security problem for me may not in fact, be a security problem.

He asked: What is the role of embassies in our area? Those embassies do not exist in vain. They want to maintain their influence by creating a background of tension. He warned that any event that takes place in Kuwait or in the area does not reflect only on Kuwait's stability but also on stability in the emirates and even in Iraq.

MINISTER COMMENTS ON SALE OF OIL TO CONFRONTATION STATES

LD090743 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 7 Jul 80 p 1

[Unattributed report: "We Accept Principle of Selling Oil to Confrontation States at Privileged Price"]

[Text] Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn said that Kuwait accepts the principle of selling oil to the Arab confrontation states at a privileged price. But, he added, it is premature to discuss this subject. He told journalists following a cabinet meeting yesterday that the matter calls for a determination of the method which the principle of such sale can be put into effect. He said: I believe that an ad hoc committee of the oil countries will be set up to follow up the subject.

PAPER PRAISES RESULTS OF PDRY LEADER'S VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA

LD030856 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0732 GMT 3 Jul 80

[Text] Kuwait--In its editorial today Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM says that the visit of the president of South Yemen 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the UAE is to be a start at soothing the tense nerves in the peninsula and the Arabian Gulf.

In this connection it praises the policy of Kuwait, which maintained its open lines with Aden even when the decision to expel it from the Arab League was issued.

It explains that the American media portrayed South Yemen as an open base to the Soviet Union and the Cuban armies so that the situation could remain tense in the Arabian Peninsula and then exploit such a situation to secure military facilities and establish American bases in the region.

It points out that the other thing which the United States wants is to drive the Arab states to impose a blockade on other Arab states which have good relations with the Soviet Union and to enter into a state of conflict with the Soviet Union, which means more division in the Arab ranks and further reliance on the West. It expresses its hope that the visit of President Muhammad to Saudi Arabia and the UAE will lead to a good stage of work in the Arabian Peninsula.

QATAR

AL THANI LIFTS ECONOMIC BOYCOTT AGAINST ZIMBABWE

JN082056 Doha QNA in Arabic 2040 GMT 8 Jul 80

[Text] Doha, 8 July--The State of Qatar has decided to cancel its economic boycott measures against Southern Rhodesia as well as its measures on cutting off its economic, commercial and cultural relations with it. This was contained in an amiri decree issued today by His Highness Shakyh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of Qatar. The decree also stated the continuation of boycott measures and the severance of relations with South Africa. It is to be noted that Southern Rhodesia is called, following its independence, the Republic of Zimbabwe and that the head of its government is Robert Mugabe.

SAUDI ARABIA

PRINCE SULTAN SCORES SENATORS' LETTER TO CARTER AT CEREMONY

Details of Graduation Ceremony

LD091225 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1100 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Excerpt] Riyadh--The Command and Staff Academy before noon today graduated the 7th group of officers. The ceremony was presided over by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation. The ceremony was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the amir of Riyadh Province and a number of the commanders and officers of the armed forces. The group comprises 37 officers, including a number of officers from the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the UAE, the YAR, Qatar, Bahrain, the Sultanate of Oman, Sudan and Somalia.

Prince Sultan's Warning

LD091226 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Excerpt] Riyadh--His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz made a speech at today's military graduation ceremony. In it he stressed Arab solidarity as one of the most important duties in the heat of current international disturbances.

His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz in his speech dealt with what has been reiterated in world papers to the effect that 70 members of the U.S. Senate presented a letter to President Carter asking him not to give the kingdom advanced weaponry.

His royal highness stated: We answer this by saying that the kingdom will never ask for weaponry and be denied its request, and that it possesses strength in God and spiritual, economic, geographic and social leadership which makes it present a request and [not be denied] it.

His royal highness added: When the kingdom has presented a request for weaponry, its request has been answered whether by America or the Western countries. The kingdom has no knowledge of any weaponry being denied to it or whether there is new development that would prohibit this.

His royal highness stated: We tell the Zionist lobby, which is exerting pressure during the American elections, that you are defeated wherever you may be. We have not presented any request that has been denied us. We know what we request and what we can absorb. What we can absorb we ask for and then it is given to us.

His royal highness the defense minister confirmed that the kingdom had not been denied any request it has presented. It does not ask in vain. It did not ask for contraband or something that could not be absorbed in its armed forces.

His royal highness stressed that his majesty the king and his royal highness the crown prince would never hesitate to shoulder any effort in the service of the country and the Islamic nation or do whatever they can to enhance Islam and Arabism.

AL-JAZIRAH COMMENTS ON SENATORS' LETTER TO CARTER

LD100842 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0607 GMT 10 Jul 80

[Text] In its comment on the question of American weapons to the kingdom in light of the speech made yesterday by the minister of defense and aviation at a ceremony at the general staff college, AL-JAZIRAH said that member of the U.S. Congress who submitted a note to President Carter against the kingdom's request for weapons are aware of the fact that the kingdom is able to buy the weapons it wants from other sources. Moreover, they are not unaware of the legitimate right of the kingdom to request the weapons it wants to strengthen its sophisticated defenses to defend itself.

AL-JAZIRAH called on U.S. officials to free themselves from the domination of the Zionist lobby. It said that members of the Congress who submitted the note to the U.S. President are disregarding a number of facts because of the influence of Zionist pressure. It explained that they are overlooking the fact that Israel was the only state in the Middle East and indeed, in the entire world which acquired F-15 aircraft [as received] many long years ago with all their equipment and sophisticated offensive weapons and that it waged the 1973 October war against the Arab states thanks to these aircraft which are equipped with the same instruments which the kingdom is now requesting.

The paper said that the American congressmen who submitted the protest have overlooked the fact that the guarantees which their note referred to about not equipping the states of the Middle Eastern region which receives F-15 aircraft with offensive equipment were not applied to Israel when the United States delivered aircraft. Moreover, Israel was the first state in the Middle East and in the entire world which the United States supplied with aircraft more sophisticated than the F-16 which has not even been used by the American Air Force itself. The delivery of the first batch of such aircraft to Israel began a fortnight ago.

AL-JAZIRAH said that those congressmen ignored the fact that Israel is an aggresive state by nature of its historic, ideological, political and military structure and that it is seeking to obtain sophisticated American weapons and equipment so that it could plan aggression on the Arab states whether these states are close to it or far away from it geographically. Moreover, they also disregarded the fact that the kingdom's request for sophisticated equipment is dictated by the Saudi national and pan-Arab awareness for the pressing need to develop their military abilities so to insure that its defenses are effective against the strong possibility of an Israeli-launched aggression against the Arab states particularly under the present circumstances when the entire American administration will be preoccupied with the presidential election fight in November.

AL-JAZIRAH said we do not deny the fact that the United States is friendly to the kingdom and to a large number of countries in the Middle East region, but we say frankly and clearly that the United States is on the way to losing all its friends and all its relations and vital interests with all the states in the region for allowing such an encroachment on the destinies of its people being exercised by the Zionist lobby inside the Congress and at other times inside the White House and even inside the Pentagon.

The paper expressed its regret at the prejudice of official U.S. circles against legitimate Arab requests, even those requests which represent vital commercial interests to the American people because one day soon this prejudice would place all American commercial, economic, political and military interests in confrontation with Israel.

In conclusion AL-JAZIRAH stressed that Israel does not represent any true interest to the United States in the Middle East.

RIYADH PAPERS WARN U.S. CONGRESSMEN AGAINST ANTI-SAUDI STANDS

LD090856 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0740 GMT 9 Jul 80

[From the press review on Saudi-U.S. relations]

[Text] AL-MADINAH says the only thing that threatens to disturb the mutual, growing Saudi-American relations is the Jewish elements working to spoil those relations both in Congress and the American media. This is taking place in spite of the appreciation by the American people and administration for the kingdom's people and government on account of their pride in the cause of development as well as their wise, positive stances toward the economy of the industrialized world.

The paper adds: Those elements spare no effort to carry out any hostile action against the kingdom for its firm, strong attitudes toward the first cause of Muslims and Arabs, namely the restoration of Arab sovereignty to Jerusalem and the rights of the Palestinian people.

AL-MADINAH accuses a number of U.S. senators of representing the interests of the Zionist entity in occupied Palestine more than purely national American interests. They defend the Zionist, Jewish injustice on Palestinian soil and Muslim's holy places more than they care for justice and its establishment in international human relations.

AL-MADINAH points out that the opposition of Jewish senators to purchases by the kingdom of its needs in American weaponry comes after the declaration by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Fahd, deputy prime minister, on Saturday evening at the King 'Abd al-Ajaziz University, that the kingdom will never allow Israel to profane and tread upon the Palestinian people.

The paper says that in their hostility to the kingdom the Jewish senators are no different to the communists who are motivated by the same urge, namely enmity to Islam.

The paper confirms that the Jewish members of the U.S. Senate will never be able to reach their objective if they continue to use their influence in the Senate whenever the Jewish entity feels the kingdom's pressure in rejecting criminal, Jewish aggression on the Palestinian people and continuation of the (?Zionist) occupation of Arab lands. It goes on to say: The kingdom's stand, as has been confirmed by his majesty the king and his royal highness the crown prince, will never change because the kingdom is working for truth and justice.

The paper adds that those who, at U.S. presidential elections, organize festivals to insult the kingdom and exploit the need of the U.S. president for Jewish votes by placing Israel's interests above any other consideration, will never affect one iota of the kingdom's proclaimed, steady, firm stands in opposing or resisting or showing enmity toward Zionist treachery and the Jewish crimes perpetrated against the Palestinian people.

PAKISTAN'S HAQ HOLDS TALKS WITH KING ON AFGHANISTAN, RELATIONS

LD092110 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Saudi-Pakistani talks began this evening at the royal court in At-Ta'if under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and his excellency the president of Pakistan, Ziaul Haq. On the Saudi side the talks were attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; 2nd Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guard His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; the king's personal adviser, Dr Rasbad Far'awn; Minister of Education Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir; and the Saudi ambassador to Pakistan, Ash-Shaykh Samir ash-Shihabi. On the Pakistani side the talks were attended by Foreign Minister Agha Shahi; Minister of Religious Affairs Mahmud Haroon; Chief of Staff General Mohammad Iqbal Khan; Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Shahi; and Pakistani Ambassador to the kingdom Najim Khan.

The talks between the two sides dealt with current Arab and international issues, particularly the situation in Afghanistan and bilateral relations.

PDRY

PDRY REPORTED WILLING TO REDUCE USSR ASSISTANCE FOR GULF AID

LD100939 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0725 GMT 10 Jul 80

[Text] Kuwait--The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' said today that the president of South Yemen, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, has promised to halve the (?number) of Soviet experts working in his country in return for economic assistance from three Arab Gulf oil-producing countries--the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the UAE.

In a dispatch from London, which it attributed to informed Arab sources, the paper said that President Nasir Muhammad, who earlier this month visited the three countries, "promised" that South Yemen, which has close friendly relations with the Soviet Union, "does not intend to be the Trojan horse in relation to the rest of the Arab states in the gulf region."

The president also stressed, according to the dispatch, that he will work to reduce by half the number of Soviet experts in the PDRY. The paper did not mention the number of experts or when their number will be reduced. It said that in return President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad was told by all the states of the region he visited that they will back the South Yemeni people in efforts to develop their economy. Al-ANBA' did not give any specific figures as to the probably economic assistance.

CABINET DISCUSSES POWER SUPPLIES, 'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD'S TOUR

LD091828 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Jul 80 EA

[Excerpts] The Council of Ministers last night decided to ban the use of air conditioners in all ministries and in various institutions and sectors. It appealed to the public to stop using air conditioners to conserve power and to ensure a constant uninterrupted power supply to the citizens and national economy. The ADEN NEWS AGENCY reports that during its regular meeting last night, the Council of Ministers, chaired by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers, decided to obtain new generators quickly to ensure adequate power supplies. It also stressed the need to grant priority to power projects in the economic development plan. During its meeting the Council of Ministers examined a number of issues on the agenda, including a report on the implementation of a number of exceptional measures to reduce inessential power consumption so as to assure availability for vital and important purposes. The council regards these measures as temporary.

The Council of Ministers heard a report on Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's visits to Saudi Arabia, the UAE and the State of Kuwait. The council stressed the importance of sustaining democratic Yemen's efforts to establish normal relations among the states of the area in order to serve security and stability. The council commended the fraternal assistance provided by the UAE and the State of Kuwait.

The Council of Ministers heard about the positive results of the fraternal meetings in San'a' between the brothers 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih with deep gratification. The council stressed the regional importance of Yemen. It emphasized the need to attach importance to fraternal meetings between the two parts of Yemen in the field of political coordination with regard to events and developments in the area, the Arab region and to sustaining efforts to implement what has been agreed by the leaders of the two parts during previous meetings to achieve the reunification of the Yemeni homeland.

BRIEFS

OMANI ENVOY TO KUWAIT--Kuwait--The Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah today received the credentials of Salim Muhammad al-Khusaybi, as the new ambassador of Oman to Kuwait. [Text] [Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0706 GMT 9 Jul 80 LD]

AID FOR YAR--Jiddah--The Islamic Development Bank today signed an agreement with the YAR, according to which the YAR will get a $20 million loan to finance the purchase of refined oil from the Kuwait National Oil Company. The agreement was signed, on behalf of the bank, by Dr Ahmad Muhammad 'Ali, president of the bank, and, on the Yemeni side, by 'Abd al-'Aziz Sallam, director general of the YAR Oil and Mineral Resources Corporation. [Text] [Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1907 GMT 7 Jul 80 LD]

AS-SADAT INTERVIEWED ON SOVIET THREAT TO GULF, CAMP DAVID

OW091849 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 1216 GMT 9 Jul 80

[NHK correspondent Isomura interview with Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat on 9 July at the presidential villa in Alexandria--recorded; interview conducted in English with Japanese subtitles superimposed on the screen; following is from the English]

[Text] [Isomura] Mr President, let me begin with a very personal note. As a matter of fact, I had the pleasure and honor to have interviewed Mrs as-Sadat in Tokyo, and also I had the pleasure to meet your youngest sister in Cairo. Naturally, I have only good notes on you from them but also I have interviewed Colonel al-Qadhdaafi and [laughter] he hasn't--not the same note. [laughter]

[As-Sadat] [laughter] You met the two extremes. [laughter]

[Isomura] Yes [laughter]. Well, before asking you the fundamentals I should like to get from you, Mr President, first-hand news on recent developments of great concern for us Japanese. First of all, there are many contradictory and also conflicting reports on the health condition of the shah of Iran. How is his condition now?

[As-Sadat] Concerning the shah, in this precise moment he is still under intensive care. I shall be visiting him in a few hours from now. We are now half past 12.

[Isomura] And decidedly the news.

[As-Sadat] That is right. [laughter] I shall be visiting him today at half past 5. We are now half past 12. At half past 5, I shall be visiting him because in the last 3 days, really, the man was suffering and he has fought a great battle, and I think--despite the fact that he is under intensive care now--we can say that the crisis is half past.

[Isomura] Also [I heard] From my colleague that a United States Air Force squadron would arrive on the 10th of July to participate--with the Egyptian Air Force--in a kind of a joint air exercise. Does this mean that you would be closer, in the military field, with the United States, or--to put it in another way--Egypt would provide for the United States some kind of military bases or military cooperation?

[As-Sadat] Well, let me be frank in this. We are a nonaligned country and we don't give any bases to any one. But I have said many times before, and I am repeating myself and especially after what has taken place there in Afghanistan, I said this: I shall be ready to give the United States every facility to reach the gulf whenever any state of the gulf is threatened. Why? Despite the fact that they severed their relations with me--but those are the governments--the Arab people is something completely different and we are Arabs, and we know much better than them that who will defend the gulf is the United States. It is not the Soviet Union. And the threat is the Soviet Union. So I declared this and I repeat it now. I shall be giving every facility to the United States to reach the Gulf or to rescue the hostages. This is a pure human issue for us, and we feel guilt. Why? Because we are Muslims and all this has been done under the name of Islam. This is not Islam. So I shall be giving the United States facilities not only to reach any Arab country whenever it is threatened in the gulf but to any Muslim country also that asks for this either in Africa or in Asia.

[A report on this interview broadcast by Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1830 GMT on 9 July states at this point:

["Answering a question on his evaluation of the U.S. desire to use force to defend peace, President As-Sadat referred to the Vietnam complex and how it provided an opportunity for the Soviet Union to infiltrate and set up belts in Africa on the Middle East. He said that after the events in Afghanistan, the Americans admitted their laxity although they are not taking quick steps to deter the Soviets."]

[Isomura] If I am correct, you told recently an Israeli journalist that PLO does not necessarily represent the real Palestinians. Is this correct, sir?

[As-Sadat] Uh-huh. This is a very important question. I didn't say that they don't represent, I said this: I have certain reservations that they are the sole representative. What about those who are under occupation there on the Western Bank and the Gaza Strip? And what about the way they deal with us, agreeing with me on someday and accepting something and 2 days later, they are refusing? So this is my reservation. But, if you ask my idea about the participation of the PLO, I will tell you quite frankly that I don't advise this now at all. Now and in Camp David also, you may know that King Husayn has asked me officially--while I was in Camp David--to come and join. He was in London by that time and he has asked to come and join me in Camp David. He said on the phone that he is ready to come now--but refused. If he could have joined us, if we asked him to join us in Camp David, we would have never reached what we reached because (?of opportunist) exploitation like he is doing now. In this precise moment, I don't advise the participation of the PLO for the very simple reason that we are not deciding the fate of the Palestinians behind their backs. We are only trying to put the Palestinians on the correct road, approach--this by full autonomy. And then they have to sit with the Israelis and decide for themselves. No one will decide for them. So, in this precise moment, we are not deciding the fate of the Palestinians. So I don't see, I don't advise the PLO joining until we agree upon the full autonomy; then after that the Palestinians will choose their delegation from the PLO and those who are under occupation as they like.

[Isomura] According to the press report, Mr President, Egypt has requested a delay in resuming the Palestinian autonomy talks. Could you give any comment on this news?

[As-Sadat] It is only for very pure technical reasons. For instance, our minister of foreign affairs--I mean the deputy minister of foreign affairs--is in, minister of state for foreign affairs is, was, in the African summit in Africa. And he is now in Europe after he ended the African summit. He is in Europe for certain work to be done. This was the only reason--technical but there is no political background for it at all.

[Isomura] And you would resume the talks?

[As-Sadat] For sure, It will be resumed here in Alexandria.

[Isomura] Is it too cynical to say that no substantial progress will be made before the United States presidential election is over?

[As-Sadat] Well, for sure this will be very important. I mean, it will give new momentum to the peace process--especially after we know what. [incomplete sentence as heard] The American system in elections--this is completely different from any other part in the world. Yes, it will give the peace process new momentum--the election of the American president.

[Isomura] Mr President, it is just a coincidence, but today in Tokyo funeral and memorial services are being held for the late Premier Ohira. Mr Ohira was one of one of the most strong advocates of closer ties with Arab countries in general, and with Egypt in particular. Could you give us some comments?

[As-Sadat] First of all, let me tell you this. I should like to seize this opportunity and ask you to convey to the emperor, to the Japanese people, to the Japanese Government our very deep condolences. I didn't meet with Ohira, the late Ohira. I thought sometime I shall meet with him. It is a great loss not [only] for you, it is for all of us, especially when the man really has always adopted the proper approach to the problems of today despite the fact that we are thousands of miles apart. The man really was very sincere in adopting these policies not only by declarations but by doing. And this, that, has taken place in the Suez Canal and is taking place until now, and until years to come. This was the fruit of the understanding between our two peoples--and the man, Ohira, engineered in it.

[Isomura] Just on the eve of the October war, you were also prime minister as well as president. And you surprised the world with the bold gesture. And this time, you are for time being now prime minister and president. And some one says that you would surprise the world again. [laughter] After the October war, and after your historic visit to Jerusalem, what will come next to surprise us, sir?

[As-Sadat] Prosperity. Prosperity. On my return from the states last April, 2 months before, I declared that 95 percent of you, my time will be dedicated for prosperity here inside the country. And for that, I took over the premiership together with the presidency because we are the presidential system in our constitution, because I don't want any time to be lost in achieving prosperity. Like we have done in the October war, we must achieve prosperity in the most shortest time--and according to the latest technology all over the world.

[Isomura] Thank you very much, Mr President.

[As-Sadat] Thank you very much.

DEPUTY PREMIER INTERVIEWED ON PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST

LD091431 Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 4 Jul 80 part 2 p 1

[Mogens Kofod-Hasen undated Cairo interview with Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din: "As-Sadat's Friend: The Peace Is Definite"]

[Excerpt] Cairo--The peace between Egypt and Israel is definite. Nothing will be allowed to change this. Not even the prospect that the two countries at present will not reach agreement on a plan for Palestinian self-government.

This is the message from countless Egyptians, high and low, from the As-Sadat government's leaders, to journalists and representatives of the "man in the street" that I met in a short week's hectic trip and endless conversations in the Nile Valley's teeming, dusty, baking capital. You notice and hear it the moment you leave the Nefertiti airlines plane from Tel Aviv and are met by smiling, friendly officials.

There may be some opposition to Anwar as-Sadat's bold peace policy--from limited religious, political and intellectual circles who find Egypt's isolation from the rest of the Arab world unfortunate.

But they are hardly ever heard. Everyone I met called the peace a necessity and thinks it a matter of course that Israel's blue and white flag with the Star of David would wave freely over a house on the island of Zamalik where Menachem Begin's ambassador has found quarters.

But will peace save Egypt from the enormous military expenditure that has burdened the country through the last generation's state of war? As-Sadat's closest colleague and friend, Vice President and Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din answered my question when he received me after a busy day an hour before midnight:

"No, the army's budget has been increased by 10 percent because of inflation. We still need a strong defense. It is true that we now have peace with Israel and have no intention of changing that fact. But there are other dangers: in the west, our neighbor Libya, packed with Russians and East Germans, armed to the teeth, with, for example, so many tanks that there are not enough Libyans to drive them."

And the tall, elegant man on the Egyptian pyramid of power continued: "In addition in the southeast there is Ethiopia, under Mengistu's aggressive rule, in control of the Blue Nile, which is essential for our water supply. President as-Sadat has just said that he would not hesitate to go to war if anyone threatened the Nile's waters. Then there is also South Yemen, a Russian vassal state."

Egypt's leaders look further than the immediate problems of the moment when they plan their policies. Dr Muhyi ad-Din expressed it as follows: "We are more or less surrounded by Soviet bases and by countries dependent on the Soviet Union. Since the invasion of Afghanistan and after what has happened in Iran we have only ourselves to rely on. Therefore we need an army that is ready. Despite all the advantages it brings, peace has not altered what we must sacrifice for our defenses."

[Question] How do you see your relations with Israel considering the difficulties during the negotiations on Palestinian self-government?

[Answer] The Begin government is extremely obstinate on certain extremely important points. For example, it speaks the whole time of security. It sees everything as a security question, even the state of health on the West Bank and in Gaza. They justify the settlements in the occupied areas in security terms. In addition there is their invocation of Israel's religious rights--something which is completely unrealistic in the twentieth century, is also condemned by the whole world and is in conflict with UN Resolution 242, which states that territory cannot be acquired by war, and in conflict with the Camp David agreement.

[Question] East Jerusalem?

[Answer] From an Islamic viewpoint, for 800 million Muslims all over the world, this is a sensitive question. The same principle must apply to all of today's great problems. Just as we demand an end to the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, we want Israel's forces to be withdrawan from all areas occupied in 1967, including East Jerusalem.

The vice president said in summary that there had been hopes in the last year that other Arab states, for example Jordan and perhaps Saudi Arabia, and the Palestinians on the West Bank and in Gaza--but he did not mention the PLO--would enter the negotiations on self-government.

"Their participation is necessary before a definite result can be reached. But they hold back because of the many obstacles that the Israeli Government has set up. And the presidential election in the United States has also delayed the peace process."

[Question] How long can you wait?

[Answer] The negotiation must be kept going with all means imaginable, as we have agreed. It is important that progress is not halted. At any rate we cannot wait to find out what happens after the U.S. elections in November. Israel must soon make some concessions and admit that the Palestinians are a people with a real claim to self-government, not just on a local level. It is also important to make it clear that the negotiations have never really been broken off.

[Question] Do you think it unreasonable that the Israelis are insisting on the security that some sort of control on the West Bank would give them?

[Answer] We want them to be able to feel secure. President as-Sadat has said: "Every time they are ready to take a step in that direction, we are ready to take two." But up to now security has not been a question of 2 or 10 kilometers more land or a few settlements. In the age of missiles and atomic bombs what is important is trust and friendship. As-Sadat offered this trust when he went to Jerusalem in 1977--after 30 years of war and fear.

[Question] Are you pessimistic about the difficulties of a new round of talks?

[Answer] No, I am not a pessimist. I am ever hopeful. But it is difficult to answer you about what will happen, because it is not only up to us. The rest of the Arab world is also affected. Europe is affected. The EEC has its two cents' worth to put in, and America is affected. We can see at this very moment what the Camp David agreement has led to so far. There is first and foremost the peace treaty.

And even though there are enormous difficulties--and provocations like the attempts on the lives of the two mayors on the West Bank--we must and will continue on the road we have followed for the last 3 years, for there is no other way. We hope that the Israelis will show the same faith that we have in the peace process that our two countries have chosen. [answer ends]

It was Anwar As-Sadat speaking through the voice of his friend Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din for the vast majority in the Egypt that has borne the Arabs' greatest burden in all the wars since 1948, when he said:

"Let us be faithful to the Camp David agreement and work hard to implement it. Let us give the Palestinians their rights and give them faith in the future. Let all of us in the Middle East be honest with ourselves, look around and understand what is happening in Afghanistan and Iran, and admit that this could also hit us if we do not reach a valid agreement on an all-embracing peace. We must face up to this, as must all Arabs, and as must the Israeli Government."

'ALI RETURNS FROM WASHINGTON TALKS, MAKES STATEMENT

NC092142 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] On his arrival in Cairo from London tonight, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that he will submit a comprehensive report to President Anwar as-Sadat on the results of the negotiations which were held in Washington. He added that the negotiations dealt very frankly with all the activities in the past period which led to the suspension of the negotiations for some time.

'Ali further said that his meeting with U.S. President Jimmy Carter was very encouraging, that the U.S. role remains that of a full partner in the negotiations and that the recent U.S. initiative is the best proof that the United States wants to end the discussions in accordance with the agreement reached at Camp David and with Resolution No 242.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali went on to say that the legal committee of the autonomy negotiations will meet in Cairo this Sunday to complete the discussion of the points of agreement and disagreement and to find a formula suitable for the autonomy for the Palestinians. He added that the security group will convene in Alexandria on 4 August under the chairmanship of the chief delegates to the autonomy negotiations and the general committee will meet on 5 August.

In conclusion Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that he and the British foreign secretary discussed the question of the Middle East, the European initiative, Britain's stand on this initiative, future expectations concerning the participation of the Palestinians in the negotiations, Jordan's position and details of the situation in the Middle East in general.

EGYPTIAN ENVOY TO U.S. ARRIVES IN CAIRO, MAKES STATEMENT

NC092105 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2035 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Cairo, 9 July--Egyptian Ambassador in Washington Ashraf Ghurbal returned to Cairo this evening. On this arrival in Cairo Ghurbal said that the talks Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali held in Washington were successful. He said that 'Ali expounded Egypt's views on the obstacles to the autonomy talks.

Ghurbal said that at his meeting with Kamal Hasan 'Ali President Carter stressed the U.S. stand and its commitment to continue the efforts to achieve full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza as soon as possible and to pave the way to the necessary comprehensive settlement in the Middle East.

(?The Egyptian ambassador) in Washington will (?stay) in Cairo 45 days.

DEFENSE MINISTER CONFERS WITH U.S. AIR FORCE UNDER SECRETARY

NC09140 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] This afternoon at his office, Defense and War Production Minister Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi met with U.S. Under Secretary of the Air Force Antonia Handler Chayes and the delegation accompanying her to discuss the basis of Egyptian-U.S. military cooperation. The meeting lasted about 1 hour.

LESOTHO FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN CAIRO ON 1-WEEK VISIT

NC091810 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1755 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Cairo, 9 July--Lesotho Foreign Affairs Minister Charles Dube Molapo arrived in Cairo this evening on a 1-week visit to Egypt at the invitation of Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

During his visit Molapo will meet with Dr Ghali and with Minister of Defense and War Production Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi.

Malapo was received at Cairo International Airport by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Hadi (?Makhluf).

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY APPROVES MILITARY AGREEMENT WITH ZAIRE

NC092120 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2050 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Cairo, 9 July--The Egyptian People's Assembly this evening approved the (?technical) and military cooperation agreement between Egypt and Zaire which was signed in Kinshasa on 7 February. Under the agreement Egypt will help the Zairian Armed Forces by training personnel in Egypt and supplying Zaire with military equipment, experts and military trainers.

IRRIGATION MINISTER OPENS NILE COMMITTEE MEETING

NC091645 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1505 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Cairo, 9 July--Engineer 'Abd al-Hadi Samahah, minister of irrigation and minister of state for Sudan affairs, has stressed that Egypt has absolute respect for all international laws that regulate the use of international rivers. In his opening speech at the meeting of the technical committee of the Nile basin countries, Samahah said: We in Egypt believe that the Nile river is a good basis for fruitful cooperation among the Nilotic countries and for insuring optimal use of these waters in the interests of these countries without infringing on any of their rights.

Samahah welcomes the representatives of the Nilotic countries participating in the committee. They are Egypt, Sudan, Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi and Zaire. Ethiopia participated as an observer.

Samahah praised the continuing cooperation among the Nilotic countries for optimal use of the waters in the interests of all. The irrigation minister invited the committee members to visit the major irrigation projects in Egypt to acquaint themselves with the progress made for optimal use of water in the interests of the sons of the Nile Valley.

Egypt's representative on the committee, Engineer Muhammad Amin Muhammad, then made a brief review of the various stages of the establishment of the Nile Basin Authority since 1967. He also reviewed what the preparatory committee has agreed upon concerning a working plan for the coming [words indistinct] and the steps that must be taken to establish the Nile Basin Authority.

The committee is scheduled to conclude its meetings tomorrow and to make recommendations on the establishment of the Nile Basin Authority.

ANTI-PDRY OPPOSITION FRONT FORMED IN CAIRO; STATEMENT ISSUED

NC081443 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Jul 80

[Text] It was announced today in Cairo that an opposition front against the agent regime in South Yemen has been formed. The opposition leaders in Cairo issued a statement today addressed to Yemenis everywhere proclaiming Cairo as a main base for struggle and a base from which the voice of opposition and resistance against the agent regime in Aden should issue in order to contain and frustrate the regime's plans.

The statement noted the aims of the new opposition were to put an end to Marxist influence in South Yemen using all legal means and methods, to put an end to subservience to anti-Arab and anti-Islam foreign forces, and to establish a national democratic regime that democratically represents the people through honest, free elections. The statement also stressed that the opposition front affirms that Islam must be the state's official religion and that the Islamic Shari'ah must be the principal legislative source.

ATTACK ON IRAQI DIPLOMATS IN BEIRUT REPORTED

JN091815 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1854 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Beirut, 9 July--The agents of the racist Iranian regime in Lebanon today committed a new crime against the staff of the Iraqi Embassy and Iraqi students here. An armed gang opened fire from a car on three members of the embassy staff and several Iraqi students as they were leaving the arts college of the Lebanese University after sitting for their exams. The attack led to the martyrdom of Ibrahim Khaz'al, a member of the embassy staff who is studying at the university. Three Iraqi students and a Lebanese female student were also wounded in the attack.

This is the third criminal attack on Iraqi institutions and employees. The previous attacks were an attempt to assassinate the Iraqi press attache last Thursday and the attempt to assassinate the Iraqi consul and another member of the Iraqi Embassy staff late last night.

HAMMADI INTERVIEWED ON RELATIONS WITH IRAN, GULF

JN101020 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 10 Jul 80 p 11

[Interview with Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi given to AR-RA'Y correspondent Badr 'Abd al-Haqq in Amman, date not specified]

[Excerpt] [Question] How far have the relations between Baghdad and Tehran gone; and what, in your opinion, is the way out of the impasse in these relations?

[Answer] Relations with Iran have deteriorated for reasons that have nothing to do with us. Iraq has no territorial claims in Iran. Iraq does not occupy any part of Iranian territory. We in Iraq do not talk about exporting our revolution to others and do not seek to interfere in their affairs. In contrast, the Iranian regime has taken the opposite stand. It is occupying the three Arab islands, the Lesser and Greater Tunbs and Abu Musa, and aspires to territorial expansion at the expense of its Arab neighbors. The Iranian regime is also seeking to export its revolution abroad and is trying to make it an example for the rest of the Islamic states to follow. Further, the Iranian regime is interfering in the internal affairs of all of the Gulf states.

As far as Iraq is concerned, there is the question of the Shatt al-'Arab, which remains unsolved. Shatt al-'Arab belongs to Iraq and will continue to do so. The Algiers agreement on the Shatt al-'Arab was concluded under special circumstances, which no longer exist. Thus, it is no longer possible to compromise Iraq's ownership of the whole of Shatt al-'Arab. Further, the Iranian regime may look different, but it conforms to the former shah's regime in substance. We do not expect the outbreak of war with Iran, but we do not rule out the possibility that relations will reach a more serious state. At any rate, it is difficult to predict future developments in Iraqi-Iranian relations.

[Question] Iraq is a gulf state and the gulf area is now the target of superpower activities which threaten the area's security more than ever before. How would you tackle this situation and what is your position on it?

[Answer] We are tackling this matter on the basis of two considerations:

Firstly, the security of the gulf is the responsibility of its littoral Arab states. When Arab territory is threatened, this becomes a pan-Arab responsibility. By threat, we the danger of occupation or direct military intervention.

Secondly, we must strive to keep the area free of superpower influence. We are exerting our utmost efforts to keep the gulf area outside Soviet and American influence. Unfortunately, however, the influence of these two has entered the area recently; Soviet influence has entered the PDRY and U.S. influence has entered the Sultanate of Oman.

Dr Hammadi added: We in Iraq believe that it is not sound to allow such influence to enter. We are doing all we can to enable the gulf states to adopt a true and genuine nonaligned stand. The type of government of any gulf country does not concern us. We are also not concerned about how any given government rules. This is an internal matter, in which we must not interfere. This is a principle we have followed for years.

We are also not concerned when a gulf state establishes a normal relationship with any superpower, provided that such a relationship is equal and is not a prelude to the advent of foreign influence in the area.

[Question] The tackling of such issues calls for joint gulf action, or at least some sort of coordination among the states in the region in reaching a common plan or concept by which to keep the region outside of the international power struggle. Are there any prospects for such coordination and, if so, what are they?

[Answer] There is no such coordination and there is no joint gulf plan to tackle this matter. We in Iraq are always contacting our gulf brothers and urging them to work out a common concept by which to tackle this question. We hope to succeed in our efforts.

'PERSIAN' ATTACKS ON BORDER POSTS DETAILED

JN100749 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0725 GMT 10 Jul 80

[Text] Baghdad, 10 July--A responsible source in the Interior Ministry has announced that over the past 2 days the racist Persian forces launched two armed attacks on the Iraqi border posts in the border area of Mandali.

In his statement, the responsible source pointed out that the racist Persian forces used heavy and medium weapons in their attacks, adding that the Iraqi forces returned fire, thus silencing the attackers' fire and inflicting heavy losses on the Persian forces. The source pointed out, however, that no details on these losses have yet been learned.

In conclusion, the responsible source said that the Iraqi forces stationed at our border posts suffered neither human losses nor material damage. The responsible source pointed out that these forces enjoy high morale and are completely in control of the situation.

LETTER FROM IRANIAN TO ATH-THAWRAH CITED

TA091649 [Editorial Report] Baghdad in Persian to Iran at 0730 GMT 7-9 July broadcasts a program of news, press reviews, letters from listeners and commentaries. The press review cites articles from ATH-THAWRAH attacking the Khomeyni regime and predicting its early downfall. The commentaries also contain strong criticism of Khomeyni and his regime, accusing it of being corrupt, oppressive, fascist and a puppet of U.S. imperialism. The letters section quotes letters received from Iranians recounting the suffering and oppression of the Iranian people under the cruel regime of the mullahs.

On 7 July a listener from Kerman writes: "All the people of the world are aware that Khomeyni gained power and has been imposed on the Iranian nation by the United States and the voice of colonialism, the BBC, and all are aware that Khomeyni and his gang are a stain of shame on our genuine revolution. Alas! Alas! That these mullahs headed by Khomeyni have diverted the genuine revolution of the nation, have ignored the blood of our young people, have transformed the country into a place of mourning through the execution of young people and intellectuals by the hands of the Khalkhalis and other religious judges, and nobody any longer has any hope for the future; and every day we observe that reputable and political individuals and young university students are being executed by those wearing the turban--people who have carried out such oppression and injustice against the Iranian masses that even history does not record. By God, these turbaned people have even surpassed Genghis and Shemr [general who killed Imam Husayn] by what they have wrought upon this noble nation under the guise of Islam.

"Let the king of reaction and those wearing the turban do whatever and commit any crime they desire! Let the reactionaries turn our country backward! Let these turbaned people present the best youth of the homeland as counterrevolutionaries! Let these sorcerers transfer abroad the wealth of this country by means of Montazeri's son! Let those suffering from a complex fire with machineguns at 90-year-old men, pregnant women and 12-year old youngsters of this land! Let these mullahs spray bullets and bombs over the Kurds, Baluchis and Gonbadis! Let them crush our students with clubs and knives through their mercenaries, the hezbollahis! Let the mullahs place their relatives and friends in the country's important posts! Let these pseudo-theologians rule over our dear university students!

"O God! You are witnessing how Khomeyni frustrated the golden hopes of the fiery passions of the nation for revolution, how all the hope and desire of the nation was transformed into hopelessness and despair, and how he ignored the blood of our youth and destroyed all the country's flowers. I do not know why our country's students are asleep and are dreaming illusory dreams. O you dear students! You who by sacrificing your blood have watered the sapling of the revolution and have nurtured it to victory! Why are you keeping silent in the face of the king of reacion, Khomeyni? How can you bear that the destiny of the entire nation be controlled by a group of people who suffer from a complex and who are ignorant of God? Why? Don't we have intellectuals, educated people and experts in the country? Are only the mullahs specialists, anti-imperialist and valuable? Are all our educated people traitors and fanatics?"

The letter then refers to the struggle of the students during the former regime and addressing them adds: "Now all the nation is aware that these mullahs have ignored your efforts and have imposed a regime on the people which is only to their own benefit and to the benefit of the pseudotheologians, and have taken away all the nation's personal and social freedoms and will lead the country to annhilation and destruction. However, do not despair once more! We are awaiting for you dear Iranian students to arise and destroy the king of reaction, Khomeyni, and to crush this regime of the mullahs as soon as possible so that through the establishment of the government of the democratic republic the Iranian nation will breath a new life and so that you will deliver the destiny of the country into the hands of educated and expert individuals. Do not allow the aba and the turban to replace the university diplomas! Dear students, revolt! Revolt for the sake of God; revolt for the sake of the masses; revolt for the sake of the educated and the intellectuals; revolt for the sake of the patriots; revolt to destroy reaction, revolt to destroy Khalkhalis and the Musavis, revolt against the turbaned kings, revolt for the sake of freedom, in short revolt for the sake of dear Islam! By God these reactionary pseudoclergy are a stain of shame on Islam and the Prophet. In the hope of victory and the establishment of the government of the democratic republic.

OIL SERVICES COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ITALY

LD070821 Rome AVANTI in Italian 25 Jun 80 p 28

[Unattributed report: "Italian-Iraqi Cooperation Agreement"]

[Text] An Italian delegation headed by Minister of Government Holdings Gianni de Michelis and National Hydrocarbons Agency [ENI] President Alberto Grandi, accompanied respectively by Director General at the ministry Mario Schiavone, Minister Paolo Giogieri of the Foreign Ministry, Senator Rufino, Director of the ENI Foreign Bureau Carlo Sarchi and National Italian Oil Company [AGIP] President Enzo Barbaglia, has gone to Iraq for meetings with top Iraqi Government representatives.

Within the context of this visit the ENI president signed an important framework agreement with Iraqi Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim designed to expand cooperation between the ENI companies and the organizations of the Iraqi Oil Ministry in all sectors of the oil cycle, with technology transfers and supplies of service and equipment. Also during the visit, the AGIP president signed a contract with Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim for AGIP to supply the Iraq National Oil Company with consultancy and engineering services and technical assistance in connection with the startup of production at a major oilfield in southern Iraq.

Last, during the talks there was also discussion of problems connected with oil supplies to ENI.

ALLOCATION OF FUND FOR ARAB DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED

JN070802 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0745 GMT 7 Jul 80

[Excerpts] Amman, 7 July--Iraq has called for the allocation of $15 billion to finance development projects in the Arab countries during this decade. In a working paper submitted to the Arab foreign and economic ministers conference which began in Amman yesterday, Iraq called for consideration of the current decade as the first decade for Arab development with the aim of bringing about comprehensive development capable of insuring pan-Arab security and establishing a new Arab economic order.

The Iraqi paper proposed several amendments to the joint defense and economic cooperation agreement among the Arab countries. It focused on the need to implement the strategy for Joint Arab economic action, which was approved by the Arab League economic council in view of its extreme importance as a realistic framework for the march of joint Arab action.

It will be recalled that Iraq is participating in the meetings of the Arab foreign and economic ministers conference in a delegation headed by RCC member and Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali.

FINANCE MINISTER RETURNS FROM AMMAN ECONOMIC MEETING

JN041810 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1800 GMT 4 Jul 80

[Text] Baghdad, 4 July--Iraqi Finance Minister Thamir Razuqi returned here this evening after having participated in the meetings of the 35th session of the Arab Economic Unity Council's secretariat general, which concluded its meetings in Amman yesterday.

The Iraqi minister described the meetings as good and said several topics regarding the enhancement of the joint Arab economic action and the role of the joint Arab companies in supporting and integrating this action were discussed. He added that the conferees also discussed the topics proposed by the secretariat general and the secretary general's annual report.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM MAURITANIAN, OTHER PRESIDENTS

JN081821 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Jul 80

[Text] RCC member and First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan has received a written message for President Saddam Husayn from Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee of National Salvation, president and prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. The message was conveyed to the first deputy prime minister by the Mauritanian justice and Islamic affairs minister when he received him at the National Assembly building at noon today.

During the meeting viewpoints were exchanged on current Arab issues and ways to develop relations between the two fraternal states. The meeting was attended by the Mauritanian ambassador in Baghdad.

Mauritanian Envoy Departs

JN090824 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 9 July--Mauritanian Justice and Islamic Affairs Minister Cheikh Ould Yedali left for home today following a 2-day visit to Iraq.

Message from Niger President

JN091926 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Baghdad, 9 July--President Saddam Husayn has received a verbal message from Col Seyni Kountche, president of the Supreme Military Council and chief of state of Niger. The message, which was conveyed by Niger's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Oumaru Amadoj during his meeting here tonight with the president, deals with the relations between the two friendly countries and means of developing them in the interest of their two peoples.

Message from Somali President

JN081127 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 8 Jul 80

[Text] Baghdad, 8 July--Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Mundhir 'Uraym received a written message addressed to President Saddam Husayn from Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre. Somali Charge d'Affaires Omar Salem Hussein delivered the message when he met with 'Uraym this morning.

SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS MAYOR OF NABULUS IN AMMAN

LD081216 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1022 GMT 8 Jul 80

[Text] Amman--His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, has conveyed the greetings of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, the Saudi Government and people to Bassam ash-Shak'ah, mayor of Nabulus, and wishes for a speedy recovery.

During his visit last night to Shak'ah in Amman, his royal highness stressed the kingdom's continuing eagerness to strengthen and back Arab solidarity and support the struggle of the Palestinian people and back their steadfastness in the face of the Zionist occupation. His royal highness praised the popular uprising of the Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories. He stressed that it is the object of the respect, esteem and pride of the whole Arab nation.

Ash-Shak'ah praised the stand of the kingdom on the Palestinian question and the good efforts exerted by His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'aziz and his royal highness the crown prince to back Arab solidarity and to strengthen the personal might of the Arab nation. Ash-Shak'ah, in a statement to the SPA correspondent in Amman, also praised the financial backing given by the Government of Saudi Arabia to the PLO and the Arab people in the occupied territories. He said that this backing had the best effect in increasing and strengthening the steadfastness of the citizens there.

His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal in his visit to Bassam ash-Shak'ah was accompanied by Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri, under secretary for foreign political affairs of the Foreign Ministry, and Shaykh Ibrahim as-Sultan, the Saudi ambassador to Amman.

OFFICIALS BID FAREWELL TO NABULUS MAYOR

JN091230 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Head of the Royal Hashemite Court Ahmad al-Lawzi visited Nabulus Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'ah in the Husayn Medical Center this morning. Al-Lawzi conveyed His Majesty King Husayn's wishes for success in performing his duty in the service of his homeland and municipality in Nabulus.

Prime Minister Dr Qasim ar-Rimawi visited Bassam ash-Shak'ah in the Husayn Medical Center this morning. He bade him farewell on the occasion of his discharge from the medical center and return to Nabulus.

MAURITANIAN INDUSTRY MINISTER ARRIVES IN AMMAN 6 JULY

JN062141 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 6 Jul 80

[Text] Mamadou Cissoko, Mauritanian minister of industry, mines and trade, arrived in Amman this evening leading an official delegation on a visit of 3 days to Jordan. Mamadou said that he will head his country's delegation to the meeting called by the Arab Mining Company, which will discuss matters related to the implementation and the financing of the copper project in Mauritania. Representatives of the General Establishment for Minerals in Iraq, the Islamic Bank for Development, the Arab Company for Investment in Saudi Arabia and the Kuwaiti Company for Foreign Investments will participate in the meetings.

REPORTAGE CONTINUES ON PHALANGIST, NATIONAL LIBERAL CLASHES

President, Premier Statements on Security

NC091619 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] The cabinet held its weekly session at 1130 today under the chairmanship of President Ilyas Sarkis. The prime minister and the ministers attended, with the exception of Minister of Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Fu'ad Butrus, who is on an official visit to Austria. After the session, which continued until 1320, cabinet secretary general Dr 'Umar Musayki gave the following official information:

At the onset President Sarkis said: Since the accepted principles of national accord were announced, the security situation has deteriorated in various Lebanese areas. The accepted principles were accompanied by results contrary to those desired: Clashes have taken place in recent months in Burj Al-Barajinah, the southern coast, the south and Sidon as well as in Al-Batrun, Bdadun and Wadi Shuhrur and in various areas of Beirut. The most violent of these clashes are those which took place in the past 2 days in Al-Ashrafiyah and the eastern coast. The casualties and damage caused by the clashes have pained all the Lebanese people.

The Arab Deterrent Force [ADF] intervened to impose security in their areas of operation, with the exception of Bdadun and Wadi Shuhrur, where the army intervened in coordination with the ADF. The army was not able to intervene in the south and in the southern coast, where it has only a symbolic presence in some areas, because the sides concerned do not agree that the army should have an effective presence there. This is the case in Furn ash-Shubbak, Al-Hadath and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and lastly in Bdadun and Wadi Shuhrur.

We all know that the sweeping majority of the Lebanese people are demanding that the army enter the various Lebanese areas because the army has proved that when it enters with efficacy and as a result of political agreement, it fulfills the citizens' hopes for reassurance and stability and the imposition of the legitimate law.

However, we must not forget that the process of rebuilding the army has not been completed and that not more than 3 years have passed since the process was started. During this period the army tackled several security situations in difficult and extraordinary conditions, which the citizens sometimes forget.

He added: We must also realize that the army is not capable of gaining military control all at once where no legitimate armed forces are present, without the agreement of the sides concerned. Moreover, we cannot ask the army to gain control by force over one area and not another because of considerations of safety for the army.

President Sarkis added: However, this should not justify in any form the creation of any kind of self-security. This is basically rejected and must prompt all the officials and the political leaders to shoulder their national responsibilities to deliver the country by returning legitimacy to all the Lebanese areas and enabling the army to play its role in this respect.

President Sarkis continued: I have already said many times that the solution in Lebanon cannot be a military one. The measures we have taken to achieve national accord and the way we reached the accepted principles announced on 5 March are merely aimed at finding the political solution which will form the moral and political cover so that the army and all the other state establishments will become effective in all areas.

President Sarkis concluded his address by saying: We shall spare no effort in continuing the march of building our armed forces by preparing and equipping them so that they will acquire the material strength and impregnability that are necessary for us. What is important in addition is to guarantee material and moral support for these armed forces through national accord. This will facilitate using these forces in all the Lebanese areas and consequently insure for the citizen the fulfillment of his hopes for security, reassurance and stability.

After the cabinet meeting, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss made the following statement: I do not exaggerate when I say that the situation is very serious. What has taken place in the eastern areas and what is being engineered by the parties on the organizational and administrative spheres should be assessed within the framework of the consequences of this serious phenomenon in relation to the presence of legitimacy in these areas and consequently in relation to the future of legitimacy and the unity of the state as a whole.

Prime Minister al-Huss added: The developments we are witnessing are the result of the fearful trend toward party domination of the utilities of life and the state in these areas. The return of these areas to state control will only be achieved when the army gets hold of the reins of security in them in an effective manner. We realize this and are seeking to achieve it, naturally, it is not permissioble to involve the army in duties it is incapable of implementing in the required manner. The party leaderships are today facing the test of the extent of their readiness to cooperate with the state in facilitating the deployment of the army in an effective manner that will restore legitimacy in the areas concerned.

Phalangist Spokesman on Fighting

WA092010 London REUTER in English 1906 GMT 9 Jul 80

[By Jeremy Clift]

[Text] Beirut, 9 July, REUTER--The rightwing Phalangist Party has taken a commanding position in Lebanon's Maronite Christian community after a crushing defeat of its main rival this week. In two days of clashes, the Phalangist fighters effectively wiped out the military force of the National Liberal Party (NLP). The battles killed 75 people, wounded 150 and left the Phalangists in control of more than a dozen NLP offices and barracks.

Many NLP militiamen surrendered to their rivals yesterday. Dany Sham'un, son of party chief Camille Sham'un, resigned as NLP military commander after his own home north of Beirut was captured and ransacked. The parties, both based in the Maronite community, fought together against Palestinian commandos and Lebanon's mainly Moslem left during the bloody 1975-76 civil war.

An official Phalangist spokesman described this week's fighting as "a very important turning point for Lebanon." He said the Phalangists now plan to disband their own party militia and form a national home guard "to liberate the rest of the country." In the pattern which emerged from the civil war, the rightwing Christian militias have dominated north Lebanon, but leftists, Palestinians and the army of neighboring Syria control much of the south and east.

Western diplomats said today that this week's showdown with the NLP seemed to mark a triumph within the Phalangist Party of a younger and more militant generation, represented by Bashir al-Jumayyil, head of the party's militia force. His father, Pierre al-Jumayyil, the party founder, had described the fighting as a catastrophe and held a series of meetings with Camille Sham'un attempting to check the conflict.

A Phalangist Party spokesman said today there was no question of the Lebanese Army being stationed in Christian districts of the country, unless it was also deployed in Palestinian-leftist sectors. Creation of a new national guard would make the "first time in the history of this part of the world that Christians will be unified militarily for 14 centuries," he said.

Pierre al-Jumayyil and Camille Sham'un met today to discuss relations between the two parties. Little emerged about the outcome of the meeting, but the Phalangist Party spokesman said the NLP would be free to continue its political functions.

Lebanese Front Meeting

NC091255 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Excerpt] The Lebanese Front held its weekly meeting in Dayr Mar Jirjis 'Awqar this morning. Former President Camille Sham'un and Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil discussed proposals for a concrete solution to the problems facing them. It was decided that each of them would go back to the Phalangist and National Liberal parties to study the proposals. The front decided to remain in permanent session to tackle the present situation.

Calm in Eastern Beirut

NC100638 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 10 Jul 80

[Excerpts] Normal life returned to the various areas of the eastern sector this morning. It has been noticed that traffic was normal. Furthermore, it has been observed that the situation was markedly calm during the night. This calm stemmed from the intensive handling of the incidents by the leaderships concerned. Meanwhile, sporadic firing was heard on the combat lines in the heart of the capital.

VOP REPORTS IRAQI DIPLOMAT KILLED IN BEIRUT

NC091721 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] In Beirut, an Iraqi diplomat was killed today when unidentified armed men opened fire on him. Two other diplomats and an Iraqi student were wounded in the same incident.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM VIENNA, BRIEFS SARKIS

NC092020 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus returned to Beirut from Vienna this evening after a 3-day official visit. During his visit he held talks with Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky and senior aides.

Butrus' plane landed at Yaqah military airport and he left immediately for B'abdah Palace, where he briefed President Ilyas Sarkis on the results of his talks in the Austrian capital.

KHADDAM RETURNS FROM AMMAN, MAKES STATEMENT

JN100655 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 10 Jul 80

[Text] Damascus--Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and the delegation accompanying him returned to Damascus last night after having participated in the meetings of the Arab foreign and finance ministers conference.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam praised the results of the conference's work, describing them as good. Khaddam said: The final statement of the conference affirmed the Arab course rejecting the Camp David accords and included all of the issues with which we are concerned.

The deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister announced that all efforts to exclude discussion of the Arab-Israeli conflict and other political issues from the Arab foreign and finance ministers conference failed.

Khaddam said: We achieved success in making the issue of the conflict with the enemy and other political issues occupy a major and natural place in the conference's work. Khaddam added that it was agreed to form a preparatory committee, which will formulate political action strategy for the forthcoming Arab summit, to be held in Amman, in light of the Syrian-Palestinian working paper.

Khaddam stated that the political situation and the Tunis summit resolutions implemented in this regard as well as the preparations and various requirements for Arab confrontation during the coming stage, were also included.

In conclusion 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said: As for the economic level, an agreement was reached on the strategy for joint Arab economic action. The proposal for this agreement was submitted by the Arab League secretariat and was subject to some amendments, proposed by the Syrian delegation during the economic committee meetings.

The Arab economic and social council ended its work in Amman last night and issued two political and economic statements. Chedli Klibi will hold a press conference today, during which he will announce the texts of the two statements.

AUSTRALIAN PARTY OFFICIAL VISITS, MAKES STATEMENT

JN091325 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Excerpts] Damascus--Australian Labor Party leader William Hayden, who is currently visiting Syria at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's National Command, visited the liberated city of Al-Qunaytirah this morning.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent, William Hayden affirmed his country's and his party's continuous support in finding a just and lasting solution for the situation in the region, a solution which is based on the national and inalienable rights of the Arab Palestinian people and the withdrawal of the Zionist forces from all occupied Arab territories.

Meeting With Ba'th Official

JN091730 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Damascus--Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, received at noon today William Hayden, Australian Labor Party leader. The meeting was attended by Comrade Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, National Command member and director of the Foreign Relations Office.

Comrade al-Ahmar made a detailed explanation of the Middle East developments and the continuous aggressive and expansionist policy of Israel, which has been going on since its establishment. He stressed that the Palestinian issue forms the crux of the conflict in this area.

Comrade al-Ahmar also explained the stands of the country and the party concerning the Camp David agreements. He said that these agreements violate the Arab rights and interests and form a blatant aggression against the cause of security and just peace in the area as well as a threat to world security. These agreements have only increased and further escalated tension.

Comrade al-Ahmar reaffirmed that neither the Camp David agreements nor any complementary initiatives can lead to the establishment of a just peace. Such peace can be achieved only through the assertion of the will of the international community and UN resolutions and the establishment of a just peace based on the comprehensive Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and the recognition of the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, including their right to repatriation and self-determination and the establishment of their national independent state under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

Touching on the aspects of the foreign and local policies of the country and the party, Comrade al-Ahmar stressed the determination to continue the national liberation scheme and the socialist trend. He underlined Syria's leading role in confronting the U.S.-imperialist-Zionist-reactionary designs and plots, which have reached a peak in the Camp David accords and the escalation of plotting against the Arab steadfastness centers, especially against Syria. He also pointed out the various progressive aspects and important changes which have been achieved in Syria under the party's leadership.

Comrade al-Ahmar reiterated that the party welcomes the exchange of viewpoints on the various issues and the strengthenin of cooperation between the two parties, the two peoples and the two countries in order to serve their common interests and the interests of security and a just and durable peace all over the world.

Hayden outlined the Australian Labor Party's domestic policy and its stand regarding the situation in the area and other international issues. Hayden stressed that his party respects and adheres to the international community's will and to all UN resolutions which call for the establishment of peace in the area on just bases and for the withdrawal of Israel from the lands it occupied in 1967 so as to enable the Palestinian people to have their homeland and state.

COMMENTARY LAUDS LAW AGAINST MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD

JN091712 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] In its editorial today the paper AL-BA'TH says: In the wake of the issuance of a law of revolutionary decisiveness by the People's Assembly on the Muslim Brotherhood gang, we shall discuss today these gangs' association with the schemes that are hostile to our nation and these gangs' transformation into cheap tools, which are being manipulated by the Arabs' enemies, to destroy Syria, fragment the unity of its people and land and incite sectarian sedition here as an alternative for the classes' pan-Arab struggle and affiliations.

We shall make the following observations and cite the following truths, which are associated with our security confrontation of the murderous gangs or pertain to these gangs' nature and the essence of their crimes:

When their acts of violence and murder escalated, these gangs imagined that our enthusiasm would soon die out and disappear in the midst of attempts to make suspicions and (?errors) prevail and to transform the battles into everyday conflicts, which could possibly lead to a daily oscillation between winner and loser, particularly in the wake of the imperialist-reactionary cover which is provided in order to besiege Syria and restrict it politically and economically.

These gangs wagered that with their repetition of their crimes, our revolutionary action would coexist with their crimes, which would later provide them with the opportunity to deal their final blow at a time when every citizen had lost his personal security. Indeed, their wagers were unfounded, since these wagers were based on the principle that our enthusiasm to uproot the crime and save the homeland contradicts with our nature.

However, our talk and revolutionary action and its quick, decisive implementation have rendered their calculations null and void. Indeed, theirs was not the first losing wager.

For example, when the official media disregarded some of the various crimes, which were perpetrated here and there, the murderous gangs imagined that this was due to weakness. Indeed, these murderers did not for one moment imagine that the Syrian media disregarded their crimes in accordance with a premeditated plan formulated for the purpose of decreasing the possibilities of unbalanced responses by individuals and groups to the crimes and preventing these criminals from satisfying their malice and arrogance and exaggerating their trivial deeds and the rumors which were being circulated and directed against Syria.

The second observation is that classifying the murderous cliques of Muslim Brothers under the name of a party is a mere metaphor. Indeed, they form neither party nor creed, since the existence of a party presupposes popularity, the ability to convince the masses and having a creed which expresses specific aims and principles.

Thus, there is no criterion under which popularity can be achieved through sabotage, intimidation, murder or perfidy, since such crimes do not go beyond being fanatical reactions by some perverted people who are attempting to take revenge on a society that has rejected them.

Indeed, the formation of the elements which perpetrated such crimes clearly proves this truth, since investigations have proved that all the murderers were either scoundrels, abnormal people or teenagers afflicted with various social problems. Investigations have also showed that several of the murders were perpetrated in return for high material rates paid per head.

Thus, what kind of a party is that which is made up of all those people? What popularity is that which is achieved by the sick, by those harboring several complexes or by professional hirelings?

As for the principles and aims which they camouflage with their impassioned slogans, they have become a mere veil that has been exposed. Indeed, there is no veil that can justify sedition or murder or allows fighting against those earning their livelihood, the undermining of the citizens' security or the destruction of their economic institutions.

Ask the sons of Hamah and Aleppo about these gangs. Ask these sons whose very livelihood was affected and their dearest ones lost as a result of these gangs' acts. Ask the real believers in and protectors of Islam about those professing Islam.

Islam, whose holy sites have been ravaged and its principles distorted by these gangs, is the first to fight and punish these gangs. Islam adopts known stands in which there is neither leniency nor mercy for distortion and apostasy.

The paper AL-BA'TH adds: Thus, for all these reasons, the people's representatives were unanimous on issuing a law of revolutionary decisiveness so as to enable the people to play their role in uprooting those who sold the homeland and lost the rights of belonging to a homeland.

Thus, when the deadline ends, and in accordance with the law of revolutionary decisiveness, the revolution and its masses will close the last pages of this clique's record forever. Indeed, there is no other alternative for the revolution or the masses.

This is the only way to confront the homeland's enemies abroad in order to prevent them from exploiting the hirelings and organs of crime to destroy the homeland, subjugate its people and seize the Arab territory for the United States and Zionism.

AL-BA'TH says: The heads that are looming from across the border with other Arab states, which have supplied the murderers with arms, cash and other necessities in a way similar to what the United States and Israel are doing, will find that the day of reckoning is near and will be difficult. Indeed, the hand that is directed against Syria will be cut off, be it directed from abroad or internally. Yes, the revolution is capable of carrying this out since it has all the winning cards in its hands, cards represented by the masses, the Ba'th, leader of the march struggler Hafiz al-Asad and a lofty stand.

MAURITANIA

ZAMEL DETAILS MAURITANIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

LD090937 Paris LE MONDE in French 6-7 Jul 80 pp 5-6

[Paul Balta interview with Mauritanian Foreign Minister Mohamed El Mokhtar Ould Zamel: "The Five Axes of Foreign Policy"--date and plance of interview not specified]

[Excerpt] "Our foreign policy," Zamel said, "must reflect our country's historical, geographical and social situation. We are a Muslim people and we Islamized West Africa by spreading Arab and Islamic thought into the region. One of our most famous great men is Hadj Omar, a black. It is on the basis of these facts that we have drawn up the main axes of our foreign policy.

"First axis: We are an active part of the Arab world and that is why we are present in all its forums, above all the Arab League. We feel concerned by the fundamental problems it faces, notably the conflict with Israel and the Palestinian people's future. We are also vigilant with regard to the covetousness the Arab world may arouse in others. We are convinced that if it succeeds in uniting on the basis of respect for each component country it will not be drawn along in the wake of the great powers and will play a dynamic role."

Second axis: Mauritania belongs to the African world.

The minister stressed that, because of its geographical position and its history, the country is very attached to the continent's liberation "and to the attainment of its political and economic unity." That is why it is also a member of the OAU and of several regional bodies.

"The third axis," Mr Ould Zamel continued, "stems from this two-fold allegiance. Our vocation is to act as a transmission shaft between black Africa and white Africa, to defend the Arabs to the Africans and vice versa because the two worlds are complementary and not divergent. In addition, people too often forget that 40 percent of Africans are Arabs and 60 percent of Arabs are Africans."

Fourth axis: Being a Muslim state and member of the Islamic conference, Mauritania is particularly attentive to anything which promotes solidarity among Muslim peoples. "That explains," Mr Ould Zamel stressed, "why we condemned the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan."

Mauritania's fifth foreign policy axis consists in taking action within the nonaligned movement to obtain the introduction of a new, more just international system while trying to maintain good neighborly relations with all peoples, especially its neighbors. "However it must be understood," the minister added, "that we are intransigent on three points: Mauritania's independence, its sovereignty and noninterference in our internal affairs."

The government asserts that it has withdrawn from the Western Sahara war and that it is neutral. However, we pointed out to Mr Ould Zamel that it cannot remain indifferent to the solution of this problem which, in many respects, determines the country's future.

"We withdrew from the conflict," he maintained, "in response to a deep aspiration felt by our people who were thrown into this unjust war against their will. We believe in the strong desire for unity which exists in the Arab world but this unity must be the fruit of a common will and the result of a free choice by all sides.

"It is important not to forget that, as early as 10 July 1978, we said that we wanted to face our responsibilities within the Maghreb: We spent 1 year seeking an all-embracing solution with the other parties. Since we did not succeed, we opted for a bilateral solution: On 5 August we signed a peace agreement with the Polisario Front, declaring our neutrality in the military conflict. However, we are not indifferent to the political solution of this question if only because the war is being fought close to our borders and our sovereignty could be threatened at any time."

Indeed, the Mauritanian Government is in favor of recognition for the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] within the borders of the former Spanish Sahara (Saguiera El Hamra and Rio de Oro) for several reasons. Many Mauritanian officials feel that the existence of a buffer zone between their country and Morocco would be a guarantee against the "old demons" which periodically inspire those who hark back to the former Cherifian empire. In addition, they themselves have to overcome many problems, including tribalism, which the Polisario Front has tackled successfully, taking advantage of circumstances.

While the Saharan epic inspires young Moors, Nouakchott thinks that the Saharan people, seasoned by the conflict, will have enough to do in running and administering the territory which has always constituted their main area of movement and that that will prevent them from possibly being tempted--if deprived of their homeland--to impose their will on a Mauritania which would then be the "weak link in the peace," after having been the "weak link in the war." Finally, they believe that, if the SDAR were one day to form a federation with Mauritania, the entity formed would have considerable influence in relations to its big northern neighbors--Algeria and Morocco--and southern neighbors--Senegal--and would act as a stabilizing factor in the region.

SUDAN

DEFENSE MINISTER REPORTS ON NUMAYRI'S HEALTH

JN091740 Khartoum SUNA in English 1723 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Khartoum, July 9, (SUNA)--Mr 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, first vice president and defence minister, has informed the cabinet today that medical diagnosis and tests made on President Numayri at Washington are very satisfactory and positive and that his excellency is spending the rest of his leave in the U.S.A.

TUNISIA

PRIME MINISTER MZALI MEETS WITH PLO'S ABU MAZIN

LD091139 Tunis L'ACTION in French 3 Jul 80 pp 1, 4

[Unattributed report: "Tunisian-Palestinian Relations Developing Constantly"]

[Text] Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali met with PLO Central Committee member Abu Mazin at the La Kasbah government palace yesterday afternoon. The meeting was also attended by Mezri Chekir, the prime minister's principal private secretary, and PLO Representative to Tunis Hakam Bal'aui.

After the meeting Abu Mazin made a statement to TAP in which he said he discussed with Mohamed Mzali various questions concerning the Palestinian revolution, related both to the situation in Lebanon and the occupied territories and to the PLO's political action the Arab and international planes.

"We also discussed inter-Arab relations in the Maghreb and Mashriq and Tunisian-Palestinian relations, which are developing constantly," Abu Mazin added. "I listened to the prime minister's viewpoints on all the points raised. "Our views were convergent and identical," he continued.

Abu Mazin also specified that the talks had enabled him to wish Mr Mzali further success and influence in Tunisia and abroad under the guidance of the wise policy laid down by President Bourguiba. He concluded by saying that he had asked Mohamed Mzali to convey his best wishes to the head of state.

CZECH FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER MEETS WITH OFFICIALS

LD091025 [Editorial Report LD] Tunis L'ACTION in French 2 and 4 July 1980 carry 900-word and 200-word unattributed reports respectively on an official visit to Tunisia by Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Minister Andrej Barcak giving details of his meetings with Tunisian National Economy Minister Abdelaziz Lasram, Interior Minister Driss Guiga, National Defense Minister Slaheddine Baly, Agriculture Minister Lassad ben Osman and with Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali. L'ACTION for 2 July also reports on a working session of the Tunisian-Czechoslovak joint commission attended by Andrey Barcak and Abdelaziz Lasram. Both sides reported stressed the excellence of bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries and "the Czechoslovak foreign trade minister stressed the fruitful nature of Tunisian-Czechoslovak cooperation and expressed his country's desire to work to strengthen this cooperation."

"He pointed out that this cooperation should be diversified. "I feel," he stressed, "that we should cooperate in other spheres, such as the industrial sphere."

With regard to cooperation in the agricultural sphere "the Czechoslovak side announced its intention to give Tunisia the benefit of Czechoslovak experience in the agricultural sphere." Mr Barcak reportedly invited Tunisian Agriculture Minister Lassad ben Osman to visit Czechoslovakia.

JORDAN'S CROWN PRINCE MEETS WALDHEIM IN TUNIS

JN091925 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, who is currently visiting Tunis as a guest of honor and the first speaker to address the international conference on the UN development program, met today with UN Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim.

During the meeting discussion dealt with the developments in the situation in the Middle East and the efforts being exerted by the United Nations to achieve peace in the region.

His Highness Crown Prince Hasan met yesterday with the Tunisian prime minister and several Tunisian officials. During the meeting, a discussion was concluded on relations between the two fraternal states and the current situation in the Arab region, particularly the Jerusalem issue.

INTERIOR MINISTER BURG RETURNS FROM U.S., MAKES STATEMENT

TA091728 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 9 Jul 80

[From the "Evening Newsreel"]

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Dr Burg has just returned from the United States where he held talks with Sol Linowitz and Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali on the continuation of the autonomy talks. Hagay Hitron reports from the airport:

[Question] Dr Burg is here with us and we will ask him a few brief questions. Dr Burg, how do you view the main achievement, if there is one, of this trip?

[Answer] If we had to view the cessation of the talks as the opposite of an achievement, then we should view the resumption of the talks as an achievement. I am of the opinion that the normalization process cannot proceed without conducting the autonomy talks in parallel. I am happy that, contrary to all forecasts, these talks can now begin without preconditions or any other condition on the Egyptians' part.

[Question] What is your reaction to Secretary of State Muskie's comment on the possible inclusion of the PLO in such deliberations?

[Answer] My reaction is that I saw in the press that he did not say this.

Further Details

TA091841 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Israel's chief autonomy negotiator Yosef Burg tonight returned home from the United States where last week agreement was achieved to resume the autonomy negotiations between Israel and Egypt. Dr Burg paid special tribute to the role of the American delegate Sol Linowitz in getting the talks on track once more. At Ben-Gurion Airport our correspondent Shim'on Ayalon asked him whether he could point to any substantive progress in the negotiations. [begin recording]

[Burg] First of all, we are in a no-man's land where formalities and substance are intertwined and interwoven. I would like to say the mere fact that the talks were interrupted had a negative influence on world opinion, also on the process of normalization. I hope that this process of normalization will now go on faster because the talks are resumed.

I would like to add: there were no preconditions, no preconditions. We had sole [as heard] talks, but as people, as heads of delegations. Ambassador Linowitz, General 'Ali, who is now the foreign minister, and I--we were talking about the situation, global, regional and so on, but not as a precondition for the resuming of our talks.

[Question] It was reported in the Israeli press that Israel had made some promises to Egypt in order to persuade the Egyptians to renew, to continue the talks. Is this correct?

[Answer] If you will give me the name and the address of the man who reported this I will be very glad to ask him and I will be more glad to say that he did not tell the truth.

[Question] Have you noticed any change in the attitude of the American administration or its offices vis-a-vis the issue of the Palestinians?

[Answer] No. My stay was too short. With this I don't want to say that if it would have been longer, I would have seen it. I can only say that the relation towards me and my aide there--the relationship was a very hearty one, very friendly one, not only correct, more than this. Therefore, politics is one thing, relations, an expression of relationships, is something else. [end recording]

YADIN DEFENDS SETTLEMENT POLICY TO U.S. CONGRESSMEN

TA091237 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Acting Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin expressed concern at the growing armament of the Arab states. In a talk with U.S. congressmen Prof Yadin firmly defended the government settlement policy and said that the United States does not agree with this policy, even when there is national consensus on the settlements in question, such as the settlements in the Jordan Rift Valley.

MINISTER ON JERUSALEM BILL, U.S. SECURITY COUNCIL VOTE

TA091441 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Minister Moshe Nisim said that there is no connection between the U.S. vote in the Security Council and the Jerusalem bill. Minister Nisim was speaking in the Knesset, in reply to a motion submitted by Alignment Knesset Member Me'ir Talmi calling for an end to the legislation in this matter. Minister Nisim said that the empty excuses and pretexts--which even Israel's friends rely on in order to excuse their anti-Israeli policy--must be repulsed. He said also that it would not have been honorable had the government asked the Knesset's Constitution, Law and Justice Committee not to decide to refer the Jerusalem bill for first reading prior to the Security Council session. MK Talmi's motion to have the subject referred to the committee was rejected by a vote of 40 coalition votes against 17 opposition votes.

Our Knesset correspondent Arye Golan notes that only four Labor Party Knesset members remained in the chamber to support Talmi's motion. MK Yosi Sarid now wants a clarification to be held with the Knesset members who absented themselves.

TRANSPORT MINISTER ON U.S. COMMITMENT, WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS

TA100707 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 10 Jul 80

[Text] Transport Minister Hayim Landau says the United States violated its commitment to Israel when voting in the Security Council on the question of Jerusalem. Landau told the Pilots Association in Herzillya last night that as a consequence the U.S. administration had lost its credibility. Landau said he felt Israel had given the United States more than it had received. Looking into the future, Israel was still the only stable element in the Middle East region and served the interests of the Free World. Israel's survival, the minister said, depended on full control of security in the territories. The security of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, Landau said, was based on Judaea and Samaria and only Israel could determine its security needs.

PERES MEETS ANDERSON, PRAISES POSITION ON JERUSALEM

TA091142 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] This morning the independent U.S. presidential candidate, John Anderson, met for over 1 hour with Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres. Knesset Member Abba Eban and former Ambassadors Herzog and Dinitz also attended the meeting.

In the conversation, Knesset Member Peres praised Anderson for his declaration on Jerusalem and said that on this issue there is no difference between opposition and coalition and that sooner or later, all the foreign embassies will move to Jerusalem.

Further Peres Comments

TA091143 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Interview with Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres by Dan Eshel following a meeting with U.S. presidential candidate John Anderson in Jerusalem on 9 July--recorded]

[Text] [Peres] I told him that with respect to Jerusalem there is no difference between the government and the opposition and that ultimately all the embassies will at any rate have to move to Jerusalem and that the sooner they do so the better.

Later we explained the Alignment's position regarding the [autonomy] negotiations, regarding the future of the territories, and we told him what we are prepared to insist on or what we want to insist on as against what we are prepared to concede.

Then he asked us rather extensively about what, in our opinion, the U.S. role here should be, and our reply was that the United States had anticipated a series of problems that did not surface, whereas on the other hand it found itself unprepared for a series of other problems that did arise. Therefore, if the question is what the United States should do, it should first of all analyze the relevant problems: heavy Soviet pressure on the region, a not insignificant degree of subversion both at home and from abroad and also, perhaps, the recognition by Arab countries that the Arab-Israeli conflict is currently of secondary nature, with other dangers taking precedence.

[Question] If you became prime minister and Anderson became president, have you formed an opinion that he is someone with whom "business" [last word in English] can be conducted?

[Answer] I would not like to express my opinion. He seems like a very pleasant person, but I do not want to take part in the U.S. presidential campaign.

PERES EXPLAINS LABOR PARTY STANCE REGARDING JERUSALEM

TA031753 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1545 GMT 3 Jul 80

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv, 3 Jul--Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres today again said there has been no change in the Labor Party stance on the Jerusalem issue. The policy is that a united Jerusalem is Israel's eternal capital.

Speaking of the party's draft national program, Peres said its status is similar to the status of a draft issued by the party's convention preparatory committee and until the party convention approves one program or other, only the party platform is binding.

Ya'aqov Tzur [from the Bet Berl Research Department] said the party's national program, written by the research department, does not have the status of a document discussed and approved by party institutions and is not binding on the party. He said the function of the research department is to merely supply data to the party policy-making bodies and papers it issues do not have precedence over other documents.

Need for Talks With Jordan

TA041050 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 4 Jul 80

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres has announced that the central subject in the Alignment's policy, if it resumes power, will be opening negotiations with Jordan in order to continue the peace process without affecting Israel's security needs. According to the Alignment, these needs must be founded on defensible borders, the existing settlements and IDF deployment. Peres also added that it was not merely presumptuous to think that there were good chances to open negotiations with Jordan in spite of King Husayn's recent statements during his talks in the United States. MK Peres made these remarks in a meeting with correspondents on party affairs in Tel Aviv in the wake of the election of the various chairmen to the committees preparing for the Labor Party convention to be held in September.

Labor Party Secretary General Hayim Bar-Lev said that a census conducted by his party showed that over 200,000 members had already registered. Over one-third of them are new members who were not members of the party in 1967. Bar-Lev added that prior to the convention, each branch will elect its own delegates in local--rather than nationwide--elections.

Chairman of the preparatory committee Hayim Tzadoq said that the next Labor Party convention will involve introspection, the formulation of plans and preparations for resuming power. MK Gad Ya'aqobi said that the Alignment's first action, if it resumes power, will be to restore the economy of the country.

Further Details on Jordan Option

TA041453 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1430 GMT 4 Jul 80

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv, 4 Jul--The chairman of the Labor Party, MK Shim'on Peres, said today he has reason to believe, relying on information he has recently received, that Jordan will be prepared to enter negotiations with Israel on the basis of Resolution 242.

Mr Peres, who appeared in a news conference in Bet Sokolov in Tel Aviv, emphasized he was saying this despite Husayn's declarations during his visit to Washington. Asked about the source of the information, Mr Peres replied: "The prime minister has revealed so much on this subject that I have nothing to add."

"Husayn is waiting for a basis on which to establish negotiations. The Likud government has not agreed to apply Resolution 242 to Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, and therefore Jordan was left with no role in the negotiations. On the basis of the autonomy plan, Israel will remain stuck in the middle of the road," Mr Peres said.

Clarification of West Bank Remarks

TA061203 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 6 Jul 80 p 2

[Excerpt] This morning Israeli Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres told a MA'ARIV correspondent that the proposal attributed to him in his interview to the German paper DIE WELT, on a solution for the Judaea and Samaria problem, was not quoted correctly. It was reported that Peres told the paper that he would agree to establish a "joint government" of Israel and Jordan in the territories of Judaea and Samaria.

Peres' proposal was actually that, in the event of a partial agreement with Jordan, a joint Israeli-Jordanian administration would be set up in those areas of Judaea and Samaria on which Israel would be ready to compromise within the framework of a territorial compromise. In those areas, Israel would be responsible for security, and Jordan for administration.

OPPOSITION LEADER RABIN SURVEYS U.S. MIDDLE EAST POLICY

TA092055 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2000 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Excerpt] Haifa, 9 July--Knesset Member Yitzhaq Rabin said on Wednesday that ever since the U.S. administration ignored King Husayn during his visit to the United States a year ago, his [Husayn's] confidence in the administration has been undermined. Today Jordan is experiencing an economic boom and its standing in the Arab world is good; it is not subject to an "American diktat."

Mr Rabin noted that the Israeli Government had explicitly stated that Jordan need not expect to get one inch west of the Jordan but, on the other hand, "negotiations are not held with the opposition." "I understand the dilemma of King Husayn, who is unwilling to lose both worlds and join the peace process," he said. At the same time, he added, King Husayn, in his recent visit to the United States, had not conceded even one of his political positions and had received tanks because of the U.S. administration's apprehension that King Husayn would turn to and receive aid from the USSR.

Mr Rabin spoke about Israeli-United States relations at a meeting of the Haifa-San Francisco friendship society held at the Dan Carmel Hotel in Haifa.

He went on to say that the increasing dependence of the United States and the USSR on the oil reserves of the Middle East would in the coming decade make the Middle East the main arena of struggle between the great powers, with the events in Iraq and Afghanistan being just "the opening moves of the instability in the region."

The speaker said that the nature of the regimes in the Arab states would contribute to the instability in the interpower struggle that would take place in our region in the coming decade. "Anyone who thinks we will live in a quiet region is wrong. We are going to live in a region of great fluctuations, tensions and perils," Mr Rabin said.

Mr Rabin said the the major American interest, and the expectations the United States has of Israel, are based on ensuring the American interests in the oil-producing countries. It would be a mistake for us to think that the United States has any other expectations of Israel. At the same time, the American interest is to lower the profile of the Arab conflict in the Middle East [as published] and to prevent the USSR from fanning the problems.

He went on to survey Israeli-United States relations, and to define the goals confronting Israel in these relations: attaining maximum political understanding, ensuring financial aid for Israel's security and ensuring that the United States will be able to spread its deterrent umbrella over the State of Israel against any possible Soviet intervention.

Israel must posit goals around which American public opinion and the American people can be rallied, and it must restrain negative trends in the administration, especially in the state and defense departments. These goals must be based on the State of Israel's security requirements, and not on control or sovereignty over the territories.

In the United States the approach to the PLO is different from what it is in Europe, he said, with the PLO coming across in the United States as a subversive element.

In his appraisal, "As-Sadat has burned his ties with the USSR," but at the same time it cannot be asserted that no shift can occur in this sphere.

KNESSET MEMBER DENIES PROMISING TO DELAY JERUSALEM DEBATE

TA091126 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 9 Jul 80 p 1

[Text] The report published yesterday in MA'ARIV saying that a U.S. State Department official had said that the chairman of the Knesset Constitution, Law and Justice Committee, MK David Glass, had promised to delay the debate on the Jerusalem bill for a considerable period of time (and that because of this promise having been broken the United States abstained from the Security Council vote) has caused ferment in the NRP faction.

Yesterday MK Glass declared he had never given any such promise and, in fact, it was known that Minister of the Interior Dr Yosef Burg had sent a message to the U.S. ambassador to the autonomy talks, Sol Linowitz, informing him that he estimated that the debate over the Jerusalem bill would continue for a long time.

Mr Glass told MA'ARIV that he had not held any talk on this matter with any U.S. element and he found it surprising that anyone could have relied on a "promise" he was said to have given to "draw out" the debate in a committee headed by him.

The message Dr Burg sent to Ambassador Linowitz cites remarks made by MK Glass over Qol Yisra'el [Voice of Israel] saying that a law relating to Jerusalem is a basic law and so any debate on it would be likely to take some time.

Circles close to MK Glass estimated that the remarks attributed to him could have been constructed from an interpretation given to Dr Burg's message. They assume that after Dr Burg returns to Israel the NRP faction will clarify the issue.

AS-SADAT INTERVIEW WITH JAPANESE NEWSPAPER REPORTED

TA091856 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Egypt's President as-Sadat has criticized the Carter administration for not checking the Soviet infiltration of the Middle East and Africa. As-Sadat said he was prepared to extend political and military assistance to Saudi Arabia to support what he called the shaking gulf region. As-Sadat also said he is ready to offer the United States facilities to enable it to mount a rescue in Persian Gulf countries should they ever be exposed to the threat. He said he made this clear to Washington after the Soviet invasion in Afghanistan.

In an interview with a Japanese newspaper YOMIURI the Egyptian president also said that Egypt could provide facilities to rescue hostages although he made no specific mention of Iran.

HA'ARETZ ON 'IMPORTANCE' OF U.S. SQUADRON'S EGYPT EXERCISE

TA101028 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Jul 80 pp 1, 2

[Military correspondent Ze'ev Schiff report: "The American Pilots Will Carry Out Familiarization Flights' Over Desert Regions in Middle East"]

[Text] A squadron of U.S. Phantom aircraft, along with technicians and other experts, is due in Egypt today to begin joint maneuvers with the Egyptian Air Force and to carry out flights aimed at getting to know the region. The squadron will stay in Egypt for 3 months, and its main base will be the Cairo West Airbase.

The dispatch of American Phantoms to Egypt, including the main elements of the squadron's maintenance system, constitutes an important step in the military relations between the United States and Egypt on the one hand, and, on the other, in Washington's efforts to redeploy in the Middle East in the wake of the events in Afghanistan.

Washington's main aim in this move is not directly connected with the organizing and training of the Egyptian Air Force. However, the high Egyptian command explains the arrival of the U.S. planes and their stay in Egypt for a few months by citing the need to improve Egypt's air power and to train Egypt's pilots.

It is known that the Egyptian defense minister, General Ahmad Badawi, met to this end with Egyptian pilots. Since he regards the matter as a sensitive one, particularly after Egypt's experience during the stay of Soviet squadrons in Egypt over the course of several years, Badawi told the pilots that the purpose of the U.S. squadron's visit is to enhance the capability of the Egyptian Air Force in joint maneuvers.

The Americans are reported to be aware of the Egyptian sensitivity to the stationing of an American military force in local army bases. Defining the visit's objective, they say is is designed, among other purposes, to accustom Egyptian public opinion to an American military presence. At first this will take the form of short visits and training exercises, and after they get used to the American military presence, the military cooperation will be expanded. The Egyptains and the Americans intend to hold a brief festive ceremony upon the Phantoms' arrival. It is reported that the U.S. under secretary of the air force, Ms Chayes, who visited Israel on the occasion of the arrival of the F-16 aircraft, has gone to Egypt to participate in the ceremony marking the arrival of the Phantoms.

Washington's aims in dispatching the squadron, are reportedly to train U.S. pilots in overflying desert regions in the Middle East and to provide them with first-hand geographical acquaintance with the region; there is also a broader objective: to strengthen the American deterrent. It is Washington's intention to hint to Saudi Arabia and the other Persian Gulf states that the administration is serious when it talks about a new military deployment in the wake of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Simultaneously, the point is to signal the USSR that serious intentions underlie President Carter's warnings, and a new military infrastructure has even begun to be built.

From Israel's point of view it is clear that this move indicates an enhancement in Egypt's strategic standing in Washington's eyes. There is no doubt that the Egyptian pilots and the Egyptian Air Force will benefit from this encounter, in both the area of operational training and in that of improved maintenance.

FURTHER REPORT ON NEGOTIATIONS, FIGHTING IN LEBANON

TA100650 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 10 Jul 80

[Text] Last night Christian leaders in Lebanon said Christians were confronted with a great threat after the latest bloody clashes between the two large Christian militia, the Phalangists and the Free Nationalists. Yesterday clashes were renewed in Lebanon and the Phalangist commander, Pierre al-Jumayyil, warned that the Syrian Army might take advantage of the situation to attack Christians in Lebanon. Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus reports.

[Gurdus] The protracted negotiations the Christian leaders, Pierre al-Jumayyil and Camille Sham'un, conducted until last night have broken down and no understanding has been achieved that could advance a solution to the grave crisis affecting the Christians in Lebanon. Both sides agreed to convene their general staffs today, separately, those of the Phalangists and of the Free Nationalists, to reevaluate the situation before continuing the contacts.

Last night Camille Sham'un warned that the current situation was extremely dangerous for the Christians in Lebanon and, according to him, the parties to the dispute must find a rapid, constructive solution. Pierre al-Jumayyil said the Christians must unite their armed forces for self-defense against the Syrian Army which, according to him, recently made a worrisome change in its activity in Lebanon. Al-Jumayyil refused to explain what was the new Syrian threat, but this may be a result of the failure of the negotiations the Phalangists have recently conducted with the Damascus administration.

Last night it was reported that serious clashes between the Phalangists and the Free Nationalists had been renewed in the (Assouan) and Mt Lebanon regions. Blasts from explosive materials were also reported last night in the Christian hamlet of Qabb Ilyas in the Lebanese valley. Yesterday life returned to normal in eastern Beirut, but here, too, the tension that threatens to explode will continue at least for the next few days when the dozens of people killed in the battles that shocked the unity of the Christians in Lebanon are buried.

LARGE SYRIAN-SOVIET ARMS DEAL REPORTEDLY SHAPING UP

TA061215 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 6 Jul 80 p 1

[By 'Oded Granot, Arab affairs correspondent]

[Text] A high-level Soviet military delegation is now in Syria, apparently in preparation for the signing of a new arms deal between the two countries. Western sources believe that Syria may receive large shipments of advanced tanks, surface-to-air missile batteries and perhaps also MiG-27 fighters in return for a far-reaching contractual commitment on Damascus' part with the USSR.

The contacts in preparation for signing the arms deal were expedited in the past few days in an effort to prevent any further deterioration in the situation of the Syrian president, in the light of the unprecedented increase in terrorist activities against the regime, which reached their peak in the attempt on his life.

It now emerges that the assassins were members of the personal guard which is responsible for Asad's security, and they were killed in the exchange of fire with the security men who were accompanying him.

Yesterday hints were published in the Syrian media about the expected arms deal. The Syrian TISHRIN wrote that "in the coming days Syria will seek to restore the strategic balance in the region" through "strengthening its ties with the Soviet Union." Syrian sources reported yesterday evening that the purpose of the Soviet military delegation's visit is "to work to strengthen the Syrian Army and its combat capacity," to enable it to cope properly with the challenges posed by the Camp David accords. This kind of wording in the Syrian media hints at the arms deal being worked out between the two countries.

It is not being ruled out that the Soviet military delegation includes KGB experts, who may assist Syria in pinpointing the opposition elements within the regime, who now constitute a threat to its very survival.

SOVIET UNION TO GRANT VISAS TO ISRAELIS ARRIVING IN MOSCOW

TA091914 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] The Soviet Union has announced it will grant entrance permits to six Israelis who asked to participate in the international conferences that will be held in parallel to the Olympic games. A telegram received this evening from Moscow at the Olympic Committee's offices in Tel Aviv states that the visas will be given to the Israelis in Vienna. Our correspondent Rami Yitzhaq reports that only three Israeli representatives will participate in the international conferences.

NABULUS MAYOR ASH-SHAKAH RETURNS FROM AMMAN

TA091233 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Nabulus Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'ah returned from Amman to his home a short while ago. Our correspondent Moti 'Eden reports that he was received by celebrating masses who were waiting for him on the main street and near his home. The military government has forbidden newsmen to interview Ash-Shak'ah and has prevented other West Bank mayors from travelling to Nabulus.

Disturbance at Allenby Bridge

TA092108 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2010 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Allenby Bridge, 9 Jul--A group of Palestinian figures, headed by the Hebron Hills deportees, who on Wednesday accompanied Nabulus Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'ah from Amman up to the Israeli side of the Allenby bridge, rioted on the Jordanian side of the bridge. They shouted curses at the Israeli security forces who were there and even tried to cross the bridge. The security forces prevented them from crossing the middle of the bridge. After the mayor of Nabulus had been taken to his town by ambulance, tempers cooled down and the Palestinian personages left the site.

INCREASED JORDAN-PLO COMMITTEE ACTIVITY REPORTED IN WEST BANK

TA081813 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1410 GMT 8 Jul 80

[Text] Nabulus, 8 July--The joint Jordan-PLO committee has decided to increase its involvement in Judaea and Samria and intends to extend aid to industrial plants and even the local bus companies there from the Baghdad conference fund it controls. The committee has already allocated large sums of money to municipalities, but the lion's share of the money has not yet reached them, since several Arab countries, including those that are actually the richest, have not yet fulfilled their financial commitments to the fund for the current year. In this context, Arab sources from the West Bank have reported that PLO representatives on the committee continue to put pressure on the Jordanian representatives to enlarge the Palestinian Liberation Army, which is under Jordanian supervision, and turn it from its brigade strength today into a division equipped with light and heavy arms.

DEPUTY PREMIER EHRLICH WARNS ARAB 'EXTREMIST MINORITY'

TA101154 Jerusalem POST in English 10 Jul 80 p 2

[By POST Knesset reporter]

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich yesterday warned the "extremist minority" among the Arab population that the government would not tolerate its subversive activities.

Replying to motions for the agenda by Shafiq As'ad (Ahva) and Yosef Rom (Likud-Herut), Ehrlich said that the government would take all necessary steps to curb incitement against the state and growing extremism among the Arab populace.

Ehrlich criticized the committee of Arab local council chairmen. He said the committee had been formed ostensibly to improve municipal conditions in Arab settlements. But "an atmosphere of extremism soon came to dominate it, and strictly political matters assumed an important part in its activities," he said.

The union of local authorities embraces Arab as well as Jewish local authorities, Ehrlich said, and there is no justification for a separate Arab organization.

The government's position is that the majority of Israeli Arabs are loyal to the state and are an integral part of the population, Ehrlich said. The deeds or pronouncements of a small minority would not lead the government to change this view. As'ad charged that the Arab sector was being neglected. Rom said that Israeli democracy must defend itself by passing a law against incitement to hostile acts, and against identification with terrorist organizations that deny Israel's right to exist.

'NO CHANGE' REPORTED IN PRIME MINISTER BEGIN'S CONDITION

TA091918 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] No change has occurred in the prime minister's condition. The prime minister is resting in a special room alloted to him in the Hadassah Hospital and his physicians say his pace of recovery is satisfactory. Today Mr Begin was visited by his family, members of the prime minister's office and MK Moshe Dayan. Our correspondent adds that Begin's physicians hope Mr Begin will be able to leave the hospital in the latter part of next week.

KNESSET MEMBERS WARNED ON LANGUAGE DESCRIBING TERRITORIES

TA021834 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 2 Jul 80

[Text] From now on, Knesset members are not allowed to use the phrases "conquered territories" or "liberated territories" in their questions from the floor. Speaker Yitzhaq Berman ruled that such references could have the questions stricken from the record because such language is meant to reflect on the status of areas.

COMPENSATION LAW PASSED FOR NEGEV AIR BASE CONSTRUCTION

TA090533 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] The Knesset has passed what has been called the Bedouin law, which offers compensation to Bedouin in the region of Tel Malhata in the Negev where one of the three air force bases is to be built to replace those which are to be returned to Egypt. At the end of the late night session, the bill was passed in the Knesset with 38 votes in favor, 3 against and 2 abstentions. Among those who voted against the bill was the Bedouin Knesset member, Shaykh Abu Rai'.

The law will provide land and monetary compensation for the Bedouin, but they say it is not enough and many have talked of openly resisting any attempt to evict them.

NEGEV BEDOUINS TO REQUEST EGYPTIAN INTERVENTION

TA101417 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 10 Jul 80

[Text] Bedouin notables from the Negev intend to involve the Egyptian Embassy in Israel in the matter of their evacuation in accordance with the land law approved by the Knesset this week. Our correspondent Bassam Ja'bar has learned that Ambassador Murtada will meet a group of notables and shaykhs in the next few days and they will ask for his intervention to change several clauses of the law.

However, a senior Egyptian Embassy source said the ambassador is not going to intervene in Israel's domestic affairs. He will listen to the Bedouins' problems since, to a certain degree, they are linked with the peace agreements between Israel and Egypt.

Our correspondent has also learned that the group of Bedouin notables will apparently also meet the U.S. ambassador next week.

LATE REPORT: BEGIN BRIEFED ON U.S. VISIT ITINERARY

TA101238 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 10 Jul 80 p 2

[Correspondent Yosef Wachsman report: "Begin's November Visit to U.S. Prepared"]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Menahem Begin yesterday received a report about the itinerary for his visit to the United States this November--after the presidential elections there. It was the prime minister's adviser on communications, Dan Pattir, who returned from the United States after a month's stay there, who reported on this to him.

The prime minister's visit will last for a week, and will include appearances in all the major cities in which Jews reside. The visit will be entirely Jewish, and will commence with a dinner on 11 November to mark the anniversary of the birth of Ze'ev Jabotinsky. The prime minister will also participate in the conference of the Jewish federations, which is to be held in Detroit, in the same hall where the Republican Party will hold its nominating convention.

BRIEFS

MONTHLY SOVIET EMIGRATION FIGURES--The Intergovernmental Committee on Immigration in Europe says that in June fewer Jews left the Soviet Union compared to the number of Jews who left it in previous months. Data which the committee has gathered indicates that in June less than 1,800 Jews came to Vienna, compared to about 2,000 in May and more than 4,000 in June 1979. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 7 Jul 80 TA]

SUPERVISOR OF EGYPTIAN RELATIONS--Deputy Director General of the Foreign Ministry Yosef Hadas, who returned from Egypt, has assumed his duties as supervisor of Israel-Egyptian relations. [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 7 Jul 80 p 1 TA]

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION DECLINES--Industrial production in fixed prices declined by 10 percent in the first quarter of 1980, compared to the level of production in the last 3 months of 1979. This data has been supplied by the Central Bureau of Statistics. Production declined due to a decrease in local demand, the freeze on credit, and the measures implemented by Finance Minister Yiga'el Hurvitz. The decline in production was registered in the following fields: electric and electronic equipment--23 percent; basic metals--19 percent; food, drink and tobacco--15 percent; machines and cargo equipment--13 percent. [Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 Jul 80 pp 1, 15 TA]

OAU'S KODJO DISCUSSES RESULTS OF FREETOWN SUMMIT

AB081006 Paris AFP in French 1601 GMT 7 Jul 80

[Text] Freetown, 7 July (AFP)--A crisis or split in the Organization of African Unity was avoided through the compromise on the Western Sahara problem recall at the end of last week in Freetown, Mr Edem Kodjo, the OAU secretary general, believes.

Taking stock of the 17th OAU summit before his departure form Freetown, Mr Kodjo described this compromise as an African solution, which, he added, is perhaps the ideal solution. Nevertheless, in an interview with AFP and Radio France International, he agreed that the stormy debate on the Sahara overshadowed other important problems, particularly the Chadian affair, which he considered to be very serious.

In response to the SDAR'S (Saharan Democratic Arab Republic) application for admission into the OAU, which was backed by the majority of the member states, that is 26 out of 50 states, and Morocco's demand for interpretation (Morocco contests the existence of the SDAR as an independent and sovereign state and she is backed by many states), the summit finally decided to give priority to these two demands and to give the wisemen's committee another mandate to seek a practical solution to the conflict.

The committee is to find out which parties there are and to attempt to establish a dialogue between them: in the conflict Morocco is opposed to the Polisario Front backed by Algeria and Libya.

On the Chadian question, Mr Kodjo revealed that a resolution was passed by the heads of state and government aimed at setting up an inter-African force to maintain peace. In case of failure, it is to contact the UN Security Council within a month for financial reasons. He said that the UN blue helmets could be Africans. He also said that even if the Transitional National Union Government headed by Mr Goukouni Oueddei is recognized as the only legal government, the other parties, namely that of Mr Hissein Habre, former minister of defense whose forces are fighting in Ndjamena against the other factions, must also be heard.

He implied that if the summit had had more time the 11-country committee in charge of the Chadian affair would have been able to grant audience to the Hissein Habre faction, whose representatives were at Freetown for that purpose.

Asked about the problems in southern Africa, particularly Namibia, Mr Koduo affirmed that only the UN plan leading to the holding of independent elections under international supervision is valid. It is a question of time, he said, and the Zimbabwe situation should serve as an example for the South Africans.

He pointed out that broad discussions were held on the Middle East and Palestine and that the resolutions adopted reflect the CAU members' preoccupation with the situation in the region. These resolutions reaffirm the OAU'S support for the PLO and the rightful cause of the Palestinian people and also condemn the signing of separate treaties, without accusing Egypt directly. Mr Kodjo reaffirmed that as far as Afro-Arab cooperation is concerned, Africa refuses to create a precedent by excluding member states from meetings. The situation is deadlocked, he added, because the Arab states are unwilling to negotiate with Egypt.

While waiting for the Afro-Arab ministerial council meeting, the summit decided to reactivate the coordinating committee comprising the secretaries general of the Arab League and the OAU as well as representatives of the African and Arab groups of the committee of 24.

Mr Kodjo also referred to the resolution proposed by Madagascar on the Indian Ocean, which he said is likely to create a zone of peace in that strategic area, where the risks of clashes are multiplying. One must prevent the proliferation of military bases and the multiplication of the risk of conflicts, he emphasized. The summit adopted a resolution calling for the return of Diego Garcia Island to Mauritius and the demilitarization of that island, which was given to the British and transformed into an important American Base.

Asked about trialogue, the secretary general pointed out that adopting a resolution on this matter as proposed by several states was postponed because the member states would like more informaltion on the Euro-Arab-African cooperation envisaged by French President Valery Giscard D'Estaing. Besides, the French presidential advisor in charge of trialogue, Mr Henri Jean-Baptiste, was in Freetown.

In conclusion, Mr Kodjo hoped that the OAU would devote more attention to development problems rather than accord preeminence to political quarrels.

SAHEL COUNTRIES FACE CONTINUING DROUGHT IN 1980

AB090655 Paris AFP in English 0420 GMT 9 Jul 80

[By Jacques Lacotte]

[Text] Dakar, July 9 (AFP)--Most of the Sahel, including Senegal, Mali and Mauritania, has not yet seen the seasonal rains, and both agriculture and livestock are in serious danger, according to officials here.

The normally rainy Casamance region in southern Senegal has seen only two sizable showers, while in normal years the wintering, as the rainy season is called, begins in June, or even May. In central and northern regions, there has been little or no rain.

If forecasters predictions of more dry weather are correct, the result could be a serious drop in the peanut crop, the staple of Senegalese agriculture.

Last year, the few rainstorms at the beginning of the wintering were followed by a drought that lasted into September and cut the peanut crop in half. The season was the worst in at least 30 years.

The livestock problems have forced officials to consider setting up a cattle safeguard operation for Casamance and the center of the country to compensate for the droughts effect on pasture areas. Meanwhile, attempts to build wells in rural areas is continuing.

Authorities also are distributing food in the country to keep peasants from selling the few remaining seeds for the next planting. But the peasants already have started selling the seeds, just as the sheep herders are bringing into the market four months early mutton normally reserved for the Moslem beast of Tabaski.

Even in Dakar, water will be shut off for short periods this month because of the severe drop in the water level at the Quiers Lake, the Dakar reservoir.

The situation is even worse in Mali and Mauritania, where the drought has lasted several years. Herders and farmers have left, and vegetation is disappearing, as officials put the fight against the deserts advance above all other urgent state business.

Efforts of the interstate committee for the fight against desertification and the Sahel club, however, are long-term, and will be successful only if financing can be found.

Meanwhile, farmers and officials remember with horror 1972, when drought killed thousands of people throughout the Sahel.

ETHIOPIA

DINNER GIVEN FOR SOVIET ADMIRAL SERGEY GORSHKOV

LD091216 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 9 Jul 80 EA

[Text] Comrade Brig Gen Haile Giorgis Habte Mariam, deputy defense minister and member of the Central Committee of COPWE [Committee to Organize the Party of Workers of Ethiopia], remarked that the broad masses of Ethiopia will remember every Soviet comrade who stood in solidarity with the struggle of the Ethiopian people in defense of the national integrity and popular revolution.

The remark was made by Comrade Brig Gen Haile Giorgis at the banquet given at the Hilton Hotel in honor of the visiting Comrade Sergey Georgiyevich Gorshkov, Central Committee member of the CPSU, deputy minister of defense and admiral of the fleet of the Soviet Union, and members of his delegation.

Comrade Brig Gen Haile Giorgis said the visit to socialist Ethiopia by the hero of the Soviet Union, Comrade Admiral Gorshkov and members of his delegation, at this particular juncture when the historic first COPWE congress has just concluded, will greatly inspire the staff of the defense forces of revolutionary Ethiopia.

In reply, Comrade Admiral Sergey Gorshkov said the USSR would continue to stand on the side of Ethiopia in the latter's efforts for progress, adding that there would be no force which would obstruct the firm solidarity of the two sisterly countries.

Meanwhile, yesterday Comrade Admiral Gorshkov laid a wreath of flowers at the Yekatit 12 memorial monument.

The Soviet delegation members have also been to the Ministry of National Defense, where they held talks with Comrade Brig Gen Tesfaye Gebre Kidan, member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council Central Committee, COPWE Central Committee and minister of national defense.

Meeting With Mengistu

LD092048 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 9 Jul 80 EA

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and COPWE [Committee to Organize the Party of Workers of Ethiopia] and commander in chief of the revolutionary army, received and held talks with Comrade Admiral Sergey Georgiyevich Gorshkov, commander in chief of the Soviet Navy and deputy defense minister, at the grand palace this morning. During the talks, Comrade Sergey Georgiyevich Gorshkov delivered greetings to our communist leader, revolutionary comrades and the Ethiopian broad masses from Comrade Leonid Brezhnev, secretary general of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Comrade Gorshkov said that the great victory won in launching COPWE, which is charged with the historic task of forming the party of the working peoples of Ethiopia, is also a victory for the Soviet people, who are the brothers and allies of the Ethiopian broad masses. He added that the Soviet delegation's talks with the comrades of socialist Ethiopia, held during the week, had been fruitful.

Replying, Comrade Chairman Mengistu thanked Comrade Leonid Brezhnev, the CPSU Central Committee members and the Soviet broad masses for their comradely greetings. He also briefed Comrade Groshkov on the victories of the Ethiopian revolution.

Present during the talks were Comrades Brig Gen Tesfaye Gebre Kidan, PMAC Standing Committee member, member of the COPWE Executive Committee and minister of national defense, and Colonel Gebreyes Wolde Hana, director of the Central Political Department of the Revolutionary Army of socialist Ethiopia and member of the COPWE Central Committee.

MENGISTU DEPARTS ON 3-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO BULGARIA

LD101145 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0500 GMT 10 Jul 80 EA

[Excerpt] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of the Committee to Organize the Workers of Ethiopia and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Army, left this morning for Bulgaria, for a 3-day official and friendly visit to that country at the invitation of Comrade Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the Bulgarian Communist Party and chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

ERITREAN OFFICIAL REPORTS ATTACK BY ETHIOPIAN FORCES

JN051352 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1315 GMT 5 Jul 80

[Text] Doha, 5 July--An Eritrean official announced today that Ethiopian Government forces are currently attacking Eritrean regions on three fronts. Mohamed Otham Abu Bakr, representative of the Eritrean Liberation Front-popular liberation forces in the Arab Gulf, said that the Ethiopian forces are concentrating their attack on three fronts: Asmara, Mersa Taclai and the Eritrean highlands in the direction of Mandafara.

Citing urgent reports he received at dawn today, Abu Bakr said that these three fronts are now the scene of fierce clashes in which various heavy weapons are being used.

Abu Bakr also announced that the Eritrean popular liberation forces planted mines in the path of a big convoy of Ethiopian Government forces which was rushed to rescue the Ethiopian forces besieged in the northern coastal region of (Amkhajid). The Ethiopian forces suffered heavy losses in lives and damage to vehicles and troop carriers.

Abu Baker also said that the Ethiopian forces have committed another bloody massacre in the Eritrean countryside, kiling three women and five children and destroying a school. MiG-21 and MiG-23 aircraft were used in this massacre.

Abu Bakr called upon the countries of the world to try to understand the Eritrean problem and to condemn the massacres of Eritreans as a result of the foreign-backed Ethiopian aggression. He also called upon the Arab states to increase their support for the Eritrean revolution by setting up a special Arab fund to aid the struggle and the Eritrean revolutionaries.

SOMALI FIGHTERS SHOOT DOWN ETHIOPIAN PLANE, KILL 35

LD091256 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali to western Somalia 0930 GMT 9 Jul 80 EA

[Text] The gallant freedom-fighters of the Western Somali Liberation Front shot down a military plane belonging to the black Abyssinian colonialists at (Habala Ilma Rafle), in Warder region on 7 July.

The freedom-fighters recently intensified their offensive against the troops of the black Abyssinians colonialists, who are forced to fight by Mengistu. The Western Somali Liberation Front freedom-fighters are heroically fighting the Abyssinians and their allies.

The freedom-fighters of the Somali Abo killed 35 Abyssinian soldiers and wounded many others at (Filthum), in Sidamo Province, on 3 July. The Somali Abo heroes also seized five AK rifles. Having suffered these losses, the Abyssinians took to their heels.

SOMALIA

BBC REPORT ON TROOPS TRYING TO ENTER KENYA DENIED

PA100318 Paris AFP in English 0237 GMT 10 Jul 80

[Text] Mogadishu, July 10 (AFP)--Somalia yesterday denied a British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) report that Somali troops recently tried to cross into Kenya, saying it was a fabrication designed to create friction between the two neighboring countries.

SONNA, the official SOMALI NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY [word indistinct] termed the BBC report (baseless) and sheer fabrication.

In a "Focus on Africa" program, BBC Nairobi correspondent Charles Harrison said Kenyan security forces recently intercepted and pushed back Somali troops who were trying to cross the border into Kenya.

SONNA accused certain governments and other circles of being behind the report.

LIBERATION FORCES CLAIM 2-3 JULY BATTLE SUCCESS

LD062216 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali to Western Somalia 1800 GMT 6 Jul 80

[Excerpts] The Radio Kulmis representative in (Galgudud) Region reports that between 2-3 July, Somali Salvation Forces [SOSAF] of the General (Aynanshe) regiment clashed in bitter fighting with the 28th (Brigade), which was reinforced by a group of para-military troops and others recruited by force. Our reporter says SOSAF forces killed 57 Somali army troops, including officers, and wounded 93 others. SOSAF forces also captured weapons, including AK rifles, (bazookas) a large number of pistols, as well as food supplies, equipment and vehicles. The Radio Kulmis reporter added that SOSAF forces have only lost one freedom fighter. The fighting is still in progress.

TANZANIA

ESTABLISHMENT OF PRIVATE INDUSTRIES TO BE ALLOWED

LD041952 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 4 Jul 80 EA

[Text] The government has affirmed the measure to allow individuals to establish industries to increase the production of goods for local use.

Speaking in Parliament today, the minister for industries, Ndugu Cleopa Msuya, said the measure did not run counter to the Arusha declaration, which is the basis of Tanzania's policy of socialism and self-reliance.

President Nyerere had made a call in this regard last year after touring several public and private industries in the Dar es Salaam region.

Closing the debate on his ministry's estimates for the current fiscal year, Ndugu Msuya told Parliament that as stated in the Arusha declaration, the state could not involve itself in small-scale trade. The minister stressed that the state can involve itself only in key undertakings of major importance to the nation.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER ON PLANS FOR FOOD SELF-RELIANCE

LD051511 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1200 GMT 5 Jul 80 EA

[Excerpts] Dar es Salaam--The Ministry of Agriculture, in collaboration with the World Food Program, is drawing up a 20-year program which would enable Tanzania to become self-reliant in food.

The minister for agriculture, Ndugu John Malecela, told parliament today that the program would take population growth into consideration and earmark sufficient funds to satisfy the country's needs.

Answering members questions on his ministry's estimates for the year 1980-81, Ndugu Malecela said the issue of self-reliance is difficult in that even the self-sufficient large nations had been compelled to import food in these difficult times. He stressed that an important factor in self-reliance in food is the availability of facilities to stockpile sufficient food for several years. He said that Tanzania would not be experiencing such a difficult food situation today if it had proper storage facilities in 1978, when 500,000 tons of food crops had to be sold because of the lack of facilities.

Parliament approved the ministry's estimates, which total more than 715,800,000 shillings.

UGANDA REPORTS ON TANZANIA OPENING BORDER WITH KENYA

LD071528 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 7 Jul 80

[Text] The Tanzanian minister of trade, Mr Ibrahim Kaduma, says Tanzania and Kenya would soon reopen their border for trade.

Mr Kaduma told the National Assembly that Kenya had agreed to many of Tanzania's conditions for reopening the border, which was closed by Tanzania after the breakup of the East African Community in 1978.

The minister said preparations are being made for a meeting to try to reach agreement. Mr Kaduma said Tanzania insisted on four conditions before trading could be resumed. They are: that Tanzania's trade with Kenya should be on a similar footing with trade elsewhere; there should be no large trade deficit; Kenyan transit trade through Tanzania to landlocked neighboring countries would be permitted subject to Tanzanian laws; trade agreements should be reached setting out these terms.

UGANDA

FOREIGN MINISTER ALIMADI LEAVES FOR VISIT TO LONDON

LD091116 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 9 Jul 80 EA

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Otema Alimadi, has left for London where he hopes to meet the British foreign secretary, Lord Carrington, to discuss matters of mutual interest between Uganda and Britain.

CAMEROON

PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM OAU SUMMIT, SENEGAL VISIT

AB091907 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] The head of state, Ahmadou Ahidjo, returned to Yaounde today after attending the 17th OAU summit in Freetown, Sierra Leone, last week. The president was welcomed on arrival by the speaker of the National Assembly, Honorable S.T. Muna; Prime Minister Paul Biya; the secretary general at the presidency, Samuel Eboua, and the director of the civil cabinet, (Debadon).

Among other things the Cameroon leader did not subscribe to the recognition of the self-proclaimed republic of the Western Sahara, describing the move as a dangerous precedent in Africa and national unity. He reiterated that with reference to the situation in Chad, the Lagos talks were still valid. After the Freetown summit, President Ahidjo visited Dakar, Senegal, where he left today for home.

CAMEROON, NIGERIA AGREE ON ANIMAL, CROP PROTECTION

AB091925 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Talks between Cameroon and Nigeria on cooperation on crop and animal protection ended in Yaounde today. The talks which began on Monday were headed by Nigeria's minister of state in the federal Ministry of Agriculture, (Emmanuel Aguba) and Cameroon's minister of agriculture, Felix Yonye Mbog. The Cameroonian delegation also included the minister of animal breeding and industry, Ayang Luc.

A number of resolutions were adopted at the final joint communique signed this afternoon by the two parties. These include fighting (?present) locust invasion, grain-eating birds and to eradicate tsetse flies throughout their common borders. They also agreed to take appropriate measures to protect wild life, especially elephants, and to control the movements of cattle across their frontiers.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

PRESIDENT DACKO DISMISSES GOVERNMENT, ISSUES DECREE

AB091935 Bangui Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] The Government of Public Salvation established on 26 September 1979 was dissolved today after 10 months of activities by a decree signed by the president of the republic, Mr David Dacko. It will be recalled that following the (?19) September 1979 coup d'etat, the head of state had set up a government knwon as Government of Public Salvation, whose main mission was to undertake the task of national reconstruction and give democratic institutions to the country. [passage indistinct] These objectives have not been attained [words indistinct]. In his desire to ensure the country's development, the head of state has deemed it necessary to entrust this national reconstruction task to a new team. [passage indistinct]

In this connection, here is a statement by the secretary general of the government, Mr (Bozanga):

[Begin Bozanga recording] President of the republic His Excellency Mr David Dacko has issued an important decree which again demonstrates his determination to ensure our country's economic recovery. He has signed the decree which I am now going to read to you:

Decree dissolving the Government of Public Salvation: The president of the republic, considering the constitution of 1979, decrees:

Article 1--The Government of Public Salvation is dissolved from the date of the signing of this decree.

Article 2--The members of the Government of Public Salvation will remain at their posts and carry out their day-to-day activities until a new government is formed.

Article 3--This decree, which will take effect from the date it is signed, will be registered and published in the official gazette and wherever necessary.

Issued in Bangui by President of the Republic Mr David Dacko. [end recording]

CHAD

HABRE CRITICIZES NIGERIAN, CAMEROONIAN SUPPORT OF GOUKOUNI

AB091825 Paris AFP in English 1658 GMT 9 Jul 80

["Delayed in transmission"--AFP note]

[Text] Ndjamena, July 8 (AFP)--Former Defense Minister Hissein Habre's Armed Forces of the North (FAN), now in the fourth month of a civil war against the allied troops of President Goukouni Oueddei, today sharply criticised massive aid reportedly being sent to government forces by Nigeria.

A FAN spokesman also attacked the Yaounde government for allowing the reported Nigerian aid to transit through northern Cameroon on its way to President Oueddei's men.

The spokesman said that 10 Nigerian army tanks now in the northeastern Nigerian city of Maiduguri were about to be delivered to government forces in the embattled capital here. Two weeks ago there were persistent reports here of unusual Nigerian army movements in Borno State across Lake Chad from Ndjamena.

BENIN

KEREKOU MAKES STATEMENT UPON RETURN FROM OAU SUMMIT

AB080925 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 7 Jul 80

[Statement to the press by Beninese President Mathieu Kerekou on his return from OAU summit conference in Freetown--recorded]

[Excerpts] As you know, the 17th summit conference of the heads of state and government of the OAU member states took place in Freetown on 1-4 July 1980. The delegation that represented our party and revolutionary state has returned statisfied with the good organization of this conference and especially happy about the concrete and realistic results arrived at during our deliberations. As a matter of fact, for 4 days, together with the other heads of state and government, we worked with maturity, complete responsibility and devotion to our cause on the numerous political, economic and socio-cultural problems facing our continent at this period of its history, its development, and its progress toward its liberation, independence, sovereignty, social progress and dignity, which must be authentically African.

These problems are very complex. That is why we were able [as heard] to find adequate solutions to the numerous problems on the agenda of our conference [words indistinct]. The realities and the general situations existing on the entire African Continent. We would like to summarize for you the atmosphere that prevailed throughout our deliberations, first, by noting that the conference warmly congratulated Zimbabwe on its admission as the 50th member of the OAU and welcomed the Zimbabwe delegation led in person by our brother and friend, Comrade Robert Mugabe, prime minister of the government of independent and sovereign Zimbabwe.

Secondly, the conference noted that although the international situation has been generally favorable to the African peoples, who are continuously fighting for liberation, sovereignty and national dignity, the situations in the southern and northwestern parts of the continent are of concern because the fighting there is becoming more intense and violent. The conference therefore warmly congratulated the Namibian people and the people of South Africa for their victories. As for the struggle for the liberation of African peoples and states still under foreign domination, the 17th summit of heads of state and government once again reminded all the member states of our organization to adhere permanently to the consistent application of the basic principles of its charter adopted in Addis Ababa on 25 May 1963 and which states: Eliminate all traces of neocolonialism from Africa; defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of member countries; establish and intensify cooperation and efforts in order to offer the best conditions of existence to the African peoples.

The 17th OAU summit also examined the serious politico-military situation in Namibia under Pretoria's fascist, racist minority regime, which illegally occupies the Namibian territory and is actively preparing to install a puppet ministerial council which will be at its disposal. The 17th OAU summit strongly condemned this evil maneuver and asked all the member states of our organization to increase their aid in all fields to the SWAPO, the only legitimate and authentic representative of the Namibian people fighting for national liberation.

The summit also critically examined the serious situation in Angola caused by the recent invasion of a part of Angolan territory by a combined international force under the leadership of the Pretoria fascist and racist regime. This armed invasion for purposes of destabilization and colonial reconquest of the People's Republic of Angola constitutes a most barbarous act and a permanent threat to peace and security in Africa and in the world. In effect, the presence of the armed forces of aggression of Angolan territory is a flagrant violation of the territorial integrity of Angola and a serious provocation against all of Africa.

Under these circumstances the OAU summit conference vigorously condemned this armed aggression by the racist Pretoria regime against the People's Republic of Angola and took concrete measures to consolidate and develop the solidarity and support of all African people with the brother people of Angola. That is why, in the name of the militant Beninese people, the vanguard party and the party of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Benin and the National Executive Counsel, we express our firm support for and our enduring solidarity with the people of the People's Republic of Angola, its vanguard party--the MPLA-Workers Party and for the great sacrifices they have made for the cause of the liberation and rehabilitation of the South African people in the name of militant Africa.

Thirdly, concerning the situation in Western Sahara, the summit noted with satisfaction the political andmilitary victories of the heroic people of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic in their just and noble struggle for national liberation against the reactionary, expansionist forces of occupation of the Kingdom of Morocco. We are convinced that the two parties involved in the conflict will begin discussions on the basis of the pertinent recommendations of the 17th OAU summit.

Fourthly, in the field of cooperation between our states and economic cooperation [words indistinct] of the African Continent on the whole. The 17th OAU summit, within the context of the program of action approved in Lagos in April during the first extraordinary summit of our continental organization, adopted new measures and resolutions on the creation of a pan-African telecommunications bureau, the establishment of an inter-African center for food science and technology, the creation of a pan-African postal union, the intergrated development project for the Fouta Jallon Mountains, and other important projects relating to transport, education and the organization of workers.

The summit also examined the Chad problem, where fratricidal war rages, fomented and maintained by external forces. On this occasion, the conference heard the speech of Brother Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Transitional National Union Government. The summit abided by the terms of the Lagos accords and asked African countries who could to provide peace-keeping forces under the effective control of the OAU.

As for us in the People's Republic of Benin, we reiterate our call to our Chadian brothers to make every necessary effort to effectively apply the cease-fire in accordance with the Lagos accords.

Finally, concerning the Benin-Gabon dispute, we are aware of your impatience to know more about the barbarous armed and mercenary aggression of the Republic of Gabon against our country on Sunday, 16 January 1977. This was examined in a spirit of responsibility by the 17th summit of heads of state and government of the OAU. We remember that before our departure for Freetown we recalled the various steps we have taken to find a lasting solution to this Benin-Gabon dispute since the 16th OAU summit in Monrovia, Liberia.

In Freetown, the subcommittee of experts met and handed over its report to the foreign ministers of Liberia, Ivory Coast, Gabon and Benin. On 4 July 1980 in Freetown, a committee made up of eight heads of state and government met under the chairmanship of His Excellency Mr Ahmed Sekou Toure to analyze objectively the report of the ministerial ad hoc committee and adopted concrete decisions applicable by the two parties in dispute in accordance with the unanimous suggestions of all members of the ministerial ad hoc committee. The secretary general is also to closely follow developments in finding a lasting solution to this dispute and to inform the current chairman of the OAU.

In conclusion, we have to note that the deliberations of the experts tried to bring out some points of agreement between the two countries, especially concerning the property and bank accounts of the Beninese expelled from Gabon.

We hope that these points of agreement will help in finding a just and lasting solution to the dispute in a reasonable time. That is why the committee of heads of state and government renewed its firm determination to see the continuation of the process already adopted and asked the ministerial ad hoc committee to give precise directives to the committee of experts so that they will understand [words indistinct] at the level of all sectors which come within the context of finding a lasting solution to this dispute. We can say that a great step has been taken in Freetown.

We are convinced that the political will that we noticed in everyone will increasingly take form and that the efforts made by the heads of state of the ad hoc committee will be successful. In conclusion, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to his excellency, President Siaka Stevens, to his people and government for the warm and enthusiastic welcome, and for the true African hospitality that they accorded the delegation of our party and our revolutionary state during our stay in Freetown, the capital of the Republic of Sierra Leone.

Ready for the revolution, the struggle continues. [end recording]

LIBERIA

GEN WEH SYEN CRITICIZES EXPATRIATE RECRUITMENT

AB082001 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 8 Jul 80

[Text] The cochairman of the People's Redemption Council, Maj Gen Thomas Weh Syen, has called on employers throughout the country to abide by the Liberanization policy laid down by government. He said it has come to the attention of government that some employers were recruiting expatriates for jobs for which there were qualified Liberians. This practice, he said, the PRC [People's Redemption Council] government will not tolerate.

The cochairman was speaking yesterday in (Nisifa), Nimba County, when he addressed a cross section of the employees and staff of the Lamco Joint Venture Operation Company at the end of a 2-day inspection tour of development projects in the area. He assured investors in the country of the government's fullest protection in their operations but asked them to desist from any practice that was contrary to government policy.

DOE REPORTS FUNDS RECOVERED, WARNS AGAINST CORRUPTION

AB081938 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 8 Jul 80

[Text] The government has now recovered from persons and the True Whig Party of the toppled Tolbert government and deposited into revenue $2.2 million, head of state M Sgt Samuel Doe disclosed in Monrovia today. Talking to LINA, the LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY, at the executive mansion, the head of state said that the recovery of the amount was a living evidence that the Liberian society had been plunged into chaos and corruption under the deposed Tolbert government. He said corruption had emanated from high places in the country including the national ports authority and the Roberts International Airport, among others.

He, therefore, issued a strong warning to the Liberian people to refrain from corrupt practices, adding that anyone found engaged in corruption will be immediately dismissed. He emphasized that such corrupt individuals will not find employment anywhere in Liberia as long as the PRC [People's Redemption Council] government remains in power. Head of state Doe called on all law enforcement agencies and the Liberian people to cooperate and work selflessly with the government in its efforts to put the country in a better shape.

He, however, expressed serious concern about the daily scramble over rice by the Liberian people and called on the Lebanese traders here to engage in the importation of rice in order to meet the consumption demands of the Liberian people.

DOE RELEASES EIGHT MILITARY SUSPECTS FROM PRISON

AB092025 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Eight army personnel were today released from detention at the Monrovia central prison by head of state Samuel Doe. Those released include Col James Pearson, Colonel (Doyen) and Colonel Doe. Others are Maj Charles (Ostrich), Maj Joseph (Dunson), and Maj John (Digley). Also released today were Lt James Grant, Lt Stephen Tay and Warrant Officer Thompson (Dolro). The officers were detained for security reasons following the April 12 coup.

Master Sergeant Doe told the men that government has no malice against any detained military personnel. He said he was convinced that the officers also have no hard feelings against the government. The head of state also told the military personnel still in detention that government has not forgotten about them and that background investigations were being conducted to ascertain facts concerning their behavior while they served in the army.

MILITARY TREASON TRAIL ADJOURNED UNTIL 11 JULY

AB092012 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] The trial of nine soldiers accused of plotting to overthrow the new Liberian Government got under way in Monrovia today and was adjourned shortly after starting until [words indistinct] Friday, 11 July. The trial was adjourned upon an application from one defense counsel, Maj (Wada Akueson), who told the tribunal that counsel for the defendants have never met with their clients for consultation. He also noted that the defense has no copy of the charges against the defendants. He therefore asked for what he called a reasonable length of time to (?meet) the defendants and to study the charges against them.

The trial counsel, Maj (Jim K. Gibson), who is representing the interest of the Liberian Government in the case, noted that the application by the defense counsel was legitimate [words indistinct]. He said he has no objection to the application. The chairman of the tribunal, Lt Col (Frank Sapel), then ruled that the trial be adjourned until Friday morning at (?1000).

The defendants include Col Arthur Bedel, Col Arthur Benson, Gen Joseph Kolako, Maj William (Pasley), Lt (Harry Wilson) and Lt (Alexander Forsman). They were all arrested on May 14 for allegedly plotting to overthrow the Liberian Government. Their interests are being represented by three defense counsel, Maj (Awada Akueson), Capt George (Tilley) and Lt (Kilo Manga). The interest of the Liberian Government is being represented by the trial counsel, Maj (Jim K. Gibson).

The military tribunal, according to its chairman, will hear evidence on the case and pass decisions based on the evidence presented by the trial and defense counsel.

FOUR TOLBERT RELATIVES RELEASED FROM HOUSE ARREST

AB092200 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Three daughters and a former sister-in-law of the late William Tolbert were today released from house arrest by Justice Minister Chea Cheapoo on behalf of head of state Doe.

Those released were Mrs (Evelyn Richardson), (Wilhemina Holder), (Williny Chea), and (Mrs Paulina Tolbert Doe), the sister-in-law. This brings to (?36) persons already released from detention by the PRC [People's Redemption Council] government. The women were arrested and put under house arrest after the April 12 revolution by directives of the PRC. Justice Minister Chea Cheapoo told the four ladies that their release was an indication of government's continued interest in the welfare of all its citizens. Minister Cheapoo told them to remain patriotic and law-abiding and informed that they were free to visit their mother, Mrs Victoria Tolbert, [place name indistinct] where she is under house arrest. [words indistinct]

Responding on behalf of her aunt and sisters, (Mrs Evelyn Richardson) thanked head of state Doe and the PRC for their kind gesture and assured Minister Chea Cheapoo of their readiness to serve the revolution. She said their release had proved to them that the PRC government was committed to justice and fair play and was (?intended) to create a just and peaceful society for all. (Mrs Richardson) appealed to the PRC through Minister Cheapoo to release her sister (Christian Norman), former deputy education minister, and her other brother and relatives who are still in detention.

Minister Chea Cheapoo assured the women that careful consideration would be given their request and said the law would take its course in the best interest of the Liberian people.

MALI

MINISTER APPEALS FOR AID TO SAVE LIVESTOCK

AB081806 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 8 Jul 80

[Excerpts] Mali is becoming worried by insufficient rainfall in this month of July. During the period of 21-30 June there was also insufficient rainfall although crops in the (?southern part), of the third administrative region and in parts of the second and fourth regions received adequate rains. In view of this situation, Minister of Rural Development Mr N'Fagnanama Kone this morning presided over an important meeting in his office during which our country's current rainfall was discussed. The meeting was also attended by Malian Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, as well as by the members of the diplomatic corps. On behalf of the Malian people, their party and government Mr N'Fagnanama appealed to the international community to help our country. He said:

[Begin recording] The main purpose of this meeting is to enable me to make an appeal on behalf of the Malian people and their party and government for help to save our livestock [words indistinct]. This appeal is necessary if we want to solve the drought problem. The year 1979 was characterized by the reappearance of drought owing to insufficient rainfall or inadequate rainfall distribution and their effects on our agricultural production, the low tonnage of agricultural products sold, the drying up of our ponds and the excessive exploitation of our grazing grounds due to the overconcentration of livestock and the constant use by foreign herdsmen of the few good grazing grounds which we still have.

The situation now prevailing in Kayes region is similar to that of 1973 with the difference that Lake Mali, which did not dry up at that time, is now completely dry. All the ponds have also dried up while the water level in our wells is extremely low.

On behalf of the Republic of Mali and of our party and people, I appeal for the traditional solidarity of your institutions and countries so that Mali may obtain urgent assistance in order to carry out the difficult taks of saving its livestock. [end recording]

SDAR INFORMATION MINISTER DELIVERS MESSAGE FOR TRAORE

AB100710 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Deputy Secretary General of the UDPM [Malian People's Democratic Union]--Col Ahmadou Baba Diara this morning received Saharan Minister of Information Mr Ould Salek in audience. The Saharan envoy was bearing a message from President Mohamed Abdel Aziz to Gen Moussa Traore. The Saharan information minister expressed to the UDPM deputy secretary general the Saharan people's sincere gratitude to the people, party and government of Mali for the efforts which Mali has always made toward the establishment of peace in the subregion. The Saharan information minister made a statement to the Malian press:

[Begin Salek recording] I gave him a letter from President Abdel Aziz, general secretary of the Polisario Front and leader of the Commanding Council of the SDAR revolution, addressed to his brother and friend, His Excellency Gen Moussa Traore, president of the Republic of Mali and secretary general of the UDPM. As it has always done, and in conformity with its foreign policy and its traditional solidarity with regard to all just causes, Mali has once again demonstrated that the steadfastness of its policy and support for just causes and for the liberation of Africa are unconditional.

At the recent Freetown summit it recognized the SDAR and supported its admission into our organization. We consider this Freetown summit at decisive turning point, for today, the SADR is a member of our organization. By this it has naturally assumed its rightful place, to which it is entitled, within our organization. We consider this as an historic event, not only for Africa but also for our subregion. Now Morocco must negotiate with the SADR, and our country will keep the Freetown rendezvous in 3 months. In one way or another, we consider that Mali, a member of the ad hoc committee, is playing a very important role, as it has always done, for the triumph of the African cause.

Morocco needs peace. Those who have supported peace supported Morocco. [sentence as heard] And those who have supported Morocco in her intransigence support aggression. As a result we are of the opinion that Mali's stance, which is that of the majority of Africa, must be respected and must be followed. [end recording]

SIERRA LEONE

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENDS LIMANN'S OAU EFFORT

AB091424 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] The Sierra Leone minister of foreign affairs, Dr Abdula Conteh, said said his country's proposal for a political security council is complementary to the late Dr Nkruman's idea of an African high command. The Sierra Leone proposal came before the just ended OAU summit in Freetown and was referred to the next summit.

In an exclusive interview with the GBC [Ghana Broadcasting Corporation]--correspondent at the conference, Dr Conteh said if Dr Knruman's proposal made in 1963 had been taken up, problems such as the one raging in Chad would have been nipped in the bud. He explained that what the political security council envisages is to have within the institutional provision of the OAU an organ which could be seized by disputing member states at any one time with a particular issue rather than the ad hoc nature of the exercise that exists presently between sections of the OAU. Dr Conteh commended the role of President Limann at the deliberations of the summit. He said during the debate on Western Sahara, Dr Dr Limann stepped in at a crucial moment when contributions were becoming acrimonious.

ANGOLA

TEXT OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON MOBUTU VISIT

LD071240 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0530 GMT 4 Jul 80 EA

[Excerpts] The president of the Popular Movement of the Revolution, Mobutu Sese Seko, returned to Kinshasa last night after a brief friendly visit to our country at the invitation of Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Workers party and the People's Republic of Angola [PRA].

In Luanda Gen Mobutu Sese Seko met with Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos. The two heads of state chaired talks between ministerial delegations from the two countries in the context of the development of social and economic cooperation between Angola and Zaire. At the end of the talks Presidents Mobutu Sese Seko and Jose Eduardo dos Santos signed a joint communique, the text of which was read by Comrade Venancio de Moura, deputy minister of foreign relations.

[Begin De Moura recording] Joint communique: The president of the Popular Movement of the Revolution and of the Republic of Zaire, Mobutu Sese Seko, paid a friendly working visit to the People's Republic of Angola on 3 July 1980 at the invitation of the president of the MPLA-Workers party and the PRA.

The delegation led by President Mobutu Sese Seko, who was also accompanied by the first lady, Citizeness Bobi Ladawa, received a warm and fraternal welcome from the people, party and government of the PRA.

President Mobutu's visit is within the context of strengthening the friendly and fraternal relations between the Angolan and Zairean peoples.

During the talks the two delegations exchanged views on questions of bilateral cooperation. They also analyzed in detail the international situation, particularly the situation prevailing in southern Africa.

During the talks, the president of the MPLA-Workers Party and the PRA reviewed in detail the situation in southern Africa, particularly the criminal attacks by the South African racist minority regime on the PRA's sovereignty and territorial integrity from the illegally occupied territory of Namibia in complete disregard of UN resolutions and the international community.

President Mobutu Sese Seko expressed his strong repudiation of the attacks on the PRA by the racist South African armed forces and called for their immediate and unconditional withdrawal from the sovereign territory of the PRA. With this call he expressed his solidarity with the Angolan people, the MPLA-Workers Party and the PRA Government in defense of their territorial integrity and the consolidation of national independence.

The two parties vehemently condemned the continuing illegal occupation of Namibian territory by racist South Africa and also condemned the racists use of that territory as a springboard for armed attacks on the PRA. They expressed their support for and solidarity with the oppressed people of Namibia and their vanguard, SWAPO, who are the victims of colonial exploitation and racist oppression by the hateful apartheid regime.

The two parties also condemned South Africa's maneuvers to impose an unjust internal settlement on the Namibian people in an attempt to prevent the people acceding to genuine independence. They also voiced their support for a negotiated settlement of the conflict based on Resolution 435 of the UN Security Council.

On South Africa, the two presidents unequivocally condemned the Pretoria regime and its policy of racial discrimination and apartheid. They reiterated their support for the heroic struggle being waged by the South African people.

The two presidents expressed their happiness at Zimbabwe's accession to independence and wished the people of that country prosperity and happiness.

They reviewed the political situation on the African Continent, expressed concern over the proliferation of conflicts and voiced support for the peaceful settlement of such conflicts on the basis of the OAU and UN Charters.

In the field of bilateral relations, the two parties agreed to make efforts to strengthen relations between the two countries and maintain the spirit of the meetings held over the past 2 years and initiated by immortal President Agostinho Neto and President Mobutu Sese Seko. The two heads of state accordingly decided to continue diplomatic relations from now on at the ambassadorial level.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the normal process of the repatriation of refugees in both countries and with the reassuring improvement of security along the common border.

Having analyzed economic relations between the two countries, the two parties expressed their wish for increased trade exchanges and economic, social and cultural cooperation so as to contribute to economic development and strengthen friendship between the two peoples.

The two parties reaffirmed the principles on which relations between the PRA and the Republic of Zaire are based, namely, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, noninterference in each others internal affairs, mutual advantage and restraint from the use of force and [words indistinct].

The two sides expressed satisfaction over the development of relations of cooperation between the JMPLA, the party youth wing, and the JMPR, the Zairean party youth wing, and hailed the forthcoming tripartite meeting between the JMPLA, JMPR and the Socialist Union of Congolese Youth.

Finally President Mobutu Sese Seko, on behalf of his delegation and himself, thanked the president of the MPLA-Workers Party, the PRA and the Angolan people for the warm, fraternal and authentically African hospitality accorded them during their brief stay in the PRA and expressed satisfaction over the positive results achieved at the talks in Luanda.

The president-founder of the Popular Movement of the Revolution and president of Zaire, Mobutu Sese Seko, invited his counterpart to pay an official visit to the Republic of Zaire. The invitation was accepted with pleasure and the date of the visit will be announced later through diplomatic channels.

Luanda, 3 July 1980

The two original copies in French and Portuguese are considered official.

[Signed] For the PRA: Jose Eduwardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Workers Party, president of the PRA and commander in chief of FAPLA; for the Republic of Zaire: Mobutu Sese Seko, president-founder of the Popular Movement of the Revolution, president of the Republic of Zaire, Lieutenant General [end recording]

DEFENSE MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE ON SOUTH AFRICAN WITHDRAWAL

LD080748 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0530 GMT 8 Jul 80 EA

[Text of communique from the Ministry of Defense on the South African invasion of southern Angola]

[Text] Since June, the day a battalion of our glorious Peoples Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] drove off the South African racist invaders from the Mongua Commune, the fighting against the invaders has been in favor of our troops. Accordingly, following the recapture of Mongua, our glorious FAPLA advanced towards (Ivale) Commune which they retook after heavy fighting on 1 July.

Following the setting up of a certain defense cordon on the (Changongo)-Mongua-(Ivale) Road, the South African racist and fascist forces were unable to carry on their murderous operations into areas further north. This created the necessary conditions for our troops to launch a counteroffensive which resulted in the expulsion of the racists from our fatherland.

As a result of the victorious counteroffensive on 2 July, our glorious FAPLA recaptured the communes of Cumato and Chiede, and finally retook by storm Nulemba Village, where the racist troops had established the command post from which they were directing their terror operations against our defenseless population.

Notwithstanding this further humiliating defeat of the South African ground forces by our glorious FAPLA, the warmongering rulers of Pretoria, taking advantage of a temporary air superiority, have been making use of their air force, which has constantly been violating our air space to carry out reconnaissance flights over Cuando-Cubango and Cunene and also to machine gun any vehicles moving on the roads of Cunene Province.

On 3 July two South African Mirage aircraft machinegunned an ambulance which was carrying three patients to Chiulo Hospital, about 90 km from the border, killing two civilians and wounding three more.

As a result of the operations undertaken by our troops to repulse the South African racist invaders from our fatherland, as already reported in previous communiques, we also report that our troops wiped out no less than 15 racist soldiers, whose bodies were evacuated by their colleagues during their withdrawal in disarray to Namibian territory.

As in 1976, once again the South African racist forces had to pull out, following a further heavy defeat by force of arms by the will of a people who have fought to be free and who will never again accept humiliation. To accomplish this, they are prepared to shed the blood of their best sons.

Hundreds of civilians have been slaughtered by the murderous hordes of Pretoria. Scores of heroic FAPLA soldiers have lost their lives in efforts to repulse the South African racist and fascist invaders in order to maintain our fatherlands integrity. Moreover, the expulsion of the invaders from our territory does not mark the end of the South African attacks against our country.

The obnoxious apartheid regime is moribund and as it is marching to its grave it will become even more aggressive. As such, we have to expect more violent attacks against our territory in a vain attempt to prevent our people from giving all necessary support to enable the Namibian people led by their revolutionary vanguard, SWAPO, to effect freedom and independence and to enable the South African people led by their revolutionary vanguard, and, to liberate themselves from the odious apartheid regime.

Glorious FAPLA soldiers: The defense of the Angolan fatherland and our working people is our raison d'etre.

Therefore, it is important to be firm in our fighting trenches and united round the MPLA-Workers Party and our esteemed commander-in-charge, Comrade President Jose Eduardo. Under him, we shall be able to carry on the noble task laid down for us by our people and party.

The struggle continues. Victory is certain.

Office of the first deputy defense minister in Luanda: July 1980, year of the first extraordinary congress of the party and the creation of the peoples assembly.

[Signed] The first deputy defense minister, chief of the general staff and commander, Joao Luis Neto Chieto

ANGOLA, TURKEY ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

LD091518 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 9 Jul 80 EA

[Text] The Government of the People's Republic of Angola and the Republic of Turkey have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level.

The decision is in keeping with their desire to strengthen the ties of friendship between the two peoples and governments and to promote cooperation between the two states on the basis of mutual respect for national sovereignty and equality and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

WEST ACCUSED OF COMPLICITY WITH SOUTH AFRICA

AB090640 Paris AFP in English 0433 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Text] Brazzaville, July 9 (AFP)--South African attacks on Angola lasted from January to June, and were not limited to the incursion that apparently ended Monday, Angolan ambassador to the Congo Vaz Contreiras charged yesterday.

Angolan officials said Monday that several hundred Angolan soldiers were killed while they were pushing South African troops back into Namibia. The South African retreat took place last Friday.

During a press conference on what he called South Africa's (territorial) violations and acts of undeclared war against Angola, Mr Contreiras condemned the West for its silence on the problem, saying it showed Western countries' complicity with the South Africans.

Western countries' silence on the South African invasions, he said, could force Angola to revise its relations with the West, he added. Repeating Angola's support for the people fighting the worldwide bastion of racism and humiliation.

The South African attacks could not make us deviate from the popular Republic of Angola's internationalist duty, he added.

CORRECTION TO DOS SANTOS CABINET CHANGES

Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese at 0530 GMT on 9 July repeats the announcement of Angolan Cabinet changes published on page U 1 of the 9 July DAILY REPORT, making possible the following fills:

Paragraph two, penultimate line, ...13 September 1979. Issued by the office of the...

Paragraph three, line two, ...comrade Lt Col Manuel Alexandre Eduardo Rodrigues Tito...

Same paragraph, line five, ...in Decree Number 211/79 of 25 [words...

Penultimate paragraph, antepenultimate line, ...Alves dos Passos Barbosa Mangueira as deputy...

Last paragraph, from line four, ...minister of industry; Lourenco Jose Ferreira Diandengue as...

BOTSWANA

CONDITION OF PRESIDENT KHAMA 'CONTINUES TO DETERIORATE'

LD101002 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 9095 GMT 10 Jul 80 CA

[Text] The office of the president today announced that his excellency the president's condition continues to deteriorate.

MADAGASCAR

PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM FREETOWN, COMMENTS ON SUMMIT

AB071015 Paris AFP in French 0807 GMT 7 Jul 80

[Text] Antananarivo, 7 July (AFP)--The Malagasy president, Didier Ratsiraka, said in Antananarivo on Sunday that the recognition of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (SDAR) by the majority of OAU member states was a great victory for the progressive countries.

Mr Ratsiraka, who had just arrived from Freetown where he attended the 17th summit of the pan-African organization, said that the Western press had 'minimized the success of the summit by saying that a compromise had been reached on the Saharan problem and that the question at hand was not whether the SDAR should be admitted into the OAU or not because the reality of its existence had finally been recognized when Morocco finally agreed to hold talks with the Polisario Front."

"The recognition and the admission of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic into the OAU by a majority of 26 member states is a very great victory for the progressive countries even if it is not a definitive one," Mr Ratsiraka said.

The Malagasy head of state regretted the absence of several progressive heads of state at the Freetown summit. The talks suffered from their absence, especially those on problems like the South African invasion of Angola and the Namibian and Chadian situations.

Finally, although he agreed that the pan-African organization is divided into two camps, the progressives and the moderates, the Malagasy president said that there was not a split as such, because the majority agreed on important matters like Namibia and South Africa.

In conclusion, he expressed his satisfaction with the fact that 10 to 12 progressive African countries, including Madagascar, are becoming increasingly influential in the OAU, as the evolution of Western Saharan problem shows.

MOZAMBIQUE

MEETING DISCUSSES REGIONAL TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS

LD041924 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 4 Jul 80 EA

[Text] A meeting of the working group of nine countries to create a transport and communications commission for southern Africa ended in Maputo this afternoon.

The meeting agreed to functional mechanisms for the establishment of the transport and communications commission. During its 4-day deliberations, the working group drew up proposals for the structure, powers, duties and functions of the various bodies which will constitute the commission, whose main objective is to enable member states to embark on joint action to end their present economic dependence on South Africa; to achieve proper economic liberation; and, through a number of drafts and programs to create a genuine and balanced regional integration.

The drafts and programs will be presented for ratification to the ministerial meeting of member states. The commission will then be legally constituted. The ministerial meeting will be held in Zimbabwe in September 1980.

ARMY REPORTEDLY OCCUPYING 'MAIN' INSURGENT BASE

LD092108 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 9 Jul 80 EA

[Text] According to information received from the MOZAMBIQUE NEWS AGENCY, the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique [FPLM] have attacked and occupied the main base of the counterrevolutionary groups acting under the direction of the national resistance movement, MNR [Mozambique National Resistance]. The base was located on Mount [name indistinct] about 50 km from the border with Zimbabwe in Manica Province. The attack and occupation followed a series of military operations carried out by the FPLM as a result of which over 300 members of this movement have been captured and (?272) killed so far. According to reports from Manica, the FPLM operations are still in progress with the enemy running away in disarray and others surrendering. Quantities of military hardward bearing South African markings have been seized and quantities of stolen commodities [words indistinct] from Mossurize District were recovered.

Youths, men and women (?of) the area who had been kidnapped by these groups and made to work for them and undergo military training were also liberated. According to statements made by prisoners captured by the FPLM, South African elements have been giving the armed groups operating in Mozambique logistic support particularly following the downfall of the Smith-Muzorewa regime, which was previously their main logistic and commando supporter during the Zimbabwean people's liberation war.

(?The South African elements were sent) [words indistinct] these groups [words indistinct] Mozambique journalists who visited the base of [word indistinct] at about 1745 on [date indistinct] two (?Hercules) military aircraft coming from the south (?dropped with the help of) parachutes various types of war material over the main base. Boxes of ammunition, grenades and explosives contained instructions in English and (?Afrikaans). According to [words indistinct] (?the guerrillas) abandoned the base shortly after the rounding up operation carried out by the FPLM. Some of the prisoners have confirmed that there were South African, Portuguese and mercenary instructors of various nationalities.

The so-called MNR originated with the independence of Mozambique, comprising [word indistinct] commandos [word indistinct], JP and OPV [expansions unknown] of the Portuguese military and paramilitary units, joined by individuals from Manica and Sofala provinces and operating within the framework of the Rhodesian military strategy until the electoral victory of ZANU-PF. These groups are now [word indistinct] supported logistically by South Africans and mercenaries. According to information from the people of Manica and Sofala provinces, a number of these groups essentially lead a gangster-type life, carrying out acts of murder and robbery to obtain food.

'FREE AFRICA RADIO' ISSUES WAR PROGRESS COMMUNIQUE

LD051526 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Africa in Portuguese to Mozambique 0400 GMT 5 Jul 80 EA

[Text] The Defense Department of the Mozambique National Resistance [RNM] has issued the following war communique, Communique No 87 of July 1980:

In June of this year our forces, operating in the provinces of Manica and Sofala, carried out the following operations: in Manica Province, on June, in the [name indistinct] area, RNM forces destroyed one enemy vehicle of the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique [FPLM], which has blown up by a landmine laid by RNM forces. In this area the glorious RNM forces, under Commander (Gidiao), captured (?30) AK-47 automatic rifles, 8 magazines with ammunition, and 3 steel helmets. They also destroyed a (?petrol) tank.

On 10 June, in the [name indistinct] area, the Mozambique Resistance Forces, led by Commander (Nota), ambushed a detachment of the Machelist oppression troops. As a result of the ensuing battle, our forces killed five enemy soldiers and the survivors fled in disarray. Our forces captured one enemy soldier.

On 18 June, in Rovue region, our forces led by Commander (Joseta) attacked enemy positions, inflicting heavy losses on the Machelist enemy troops. Among the enemy dead was a commander of the 3rd FPLM Company, (?which had been dispatched) from Beira. As a result of the fighting, the enemy abandoned the following war equipment: 15 AK-47 automatic rifles, 27 magazines with ammunition, 3 (?boxes) of machinegun ammunition, 1 82-mm mortar, 15 handgrenades; 11 82-mm mortar shells and (?11) other kinds of mortar shells, 1 radio transmitter, 6 steel helmets, 19 raincoats, 4 (?heavy cardigans), 3 pairs of boots and 2 toothbrushes.

Our forces also engaged the enemy in the areas between (?Dondo) and (Chimite) from 20 to 21 June. In operations in that area our forces killed six FPLM enemy soldiers. The enemy also abandoned war equipment, which was captured by our forces. This included 8 AK-47 automatic rifles, 15 [words indistinct] machineguns, 1 MG-(?2) machinegun, 21 bazooka RPG-7 shells, 6 60-mm mortar shells, 4 steel helmets, 6 blankets and 2 magazines for automatic rifles.

In Sofala Province on 28 June the glorious RNM wiped out 15 Machelist soldiers at a place on the Gorongosa-(Ebuza) road. Our forces captured the following enemy equipment: 96 82-mm mortar shells, 62 RPG-7 bazookas, 8 AK-47 automatic rifles, 15 boxes of ammunition for automatic rifles, 2 82-mm mortars, 21 handgrenades, 1 military vehicle, 65 [word indistinct], 38 raincoats, 33 military caps and 28 steel helmets.

In Manica Province on 30 June, one military vehicle of the Machelist troops was completely destroyed when it detonated a landmine on the Dombe-Rovue road. Our forces commanded by [words indistinct] (?cleared the enemy forces) from the area.

On the same day the glorious RNM, led by Commander (Valia), engaged Machelist enemy forces in the (Muicati) Mountain area. RNM forces killed seven FPLM elements. Our forces captured (?nine) AK-47 automatic rifles, two [words indistinct] semi-automatic rifles, nine RPG-7 bazookas, one FN automatic rifle, and one magazine and three boxes of ammunition for automatic rifles.

In a desperate attempt to neutralize RNM operations, Soviet-built MiG aircraft of the air force of the Machel regime have been conducting air raids with napalm bombs on Espungabera, Dombe and (Rotalho), in Manica Province, forcing Mozambique refugees to flee to Zimbabwe.

The struggle continues. Death or freedom. Victory is certain.

SOUTH AFRICA

STATUS OF ZIMBABWEAN CONSULATE IN CAPE TOWN UNCHANGED

LD090915 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 9 Jul 80

[Excerpt] The decision by the Zimbabwean prime minister, Mr Mugabe, to close the South African diplomatic mission in Salisbury will not affect the Zimbabwe consulate in Cape Town. The vice consul for information at the consulate, Mr (Jan Luis Lataf), says the decision does not affect the consulate and staff there and they are carrying out their duties as normal.

BOTHA REJECTS MUGABE DEFENSE FORCE ALLEGATIONS

LD062202 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 6 Jul 80

[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, has categorically denied that the South African mission in Zimbabwe has recruited members of the Zimbabwe defense force for attacks or subversion against that country. Mr Botha was commenting on a statement by the prime minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Mugabe, to the effect that South Africa aimed to destabilize his country. He said South Africa had always acted correctly towards its neighbor in accordance with international practice and norms despite unfriendly statements by members of the Zimbabwean Government.

Mr Botha said South Africa would not allow its territory to be used for attacks against neighboring states. He said the South African Defense Force had merely considered applications for appointment in the defense force. Factors such as citizenship and age were taken into consideration in terms of the defense force's policy and some of the applicants had been appointed.

Mr Botha said the (?private sector) of South Africa and the defense forces of other countries had also appointed members of Zimbabwe defense forces. Mr Botha said that as far as [words indistinct] of relations between the two countries was concerned.

South Africa had up till now been (?hoping) to maintain diplomatic relations but if the Zimbabwean Government was not interested then that would be the end of the matter. He pointed out, however, that the continuation of trade and economic links would be seriously hampered if all governmental contacts were ended.

RADIO COMMENTS ON MUGABE'S 'THREATS' TO SOUTH AFRICA

LD070918 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 7 Jul 80

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] We comment on South Africa's warning to Mr Mugabe.

There has been a sharp reaction by Pretoria to Mr Robert Mugabe's rash threats to South Africa. The Zimbabwean prime minister, speaking at the OAU conference in Freetown, Sierra Leone, accused what he called the South African racist regime of being intent on a process marked with blood. He said that it was not heeding the warning of the bitter experience of the Rhodesian whites. He urged substantial military support to the so-called frontline states of Zambia, Angola, Tanzania, Botswana and Mozambique. This would then give effective support to the national struggle in South Africa. At the same time there should be increased assistance to what he terms ANC and PAC guerrillas.

South Africa's reaction to this fighting talk by Mr Robert Mugabe was that South Africa was not going to allow another situation to develop on her northern borders like the one on the northern borders of South-West Africa-Namibia. South Africa would immediately wipe out any terrorist bases found in Zimbabwe. A personal message to this effect has been sent to Mr Mugabe by the South African authorities.

It is realized in South Africa that Mr Mugabe is beset by problems at home. However, by alienating South Africa he compounds his difficulties and invites the breakdown of Zimbabwe.

These are the problems Mr Mugabe must resolve. He is in no position to direct warnings against South Africa. For South Africa ties with Zimbabwe are of negligible economic significance, but Zimbabwe's lifeline runs through South Africa. By antagonizing South Africa he jeopardizes his own country's survival.

SPOKESMAN DENIES AIDING MOZAMBIQUE INSURGENT FORCES

LD100820 Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 10 Jul 80

[Excerpts] The Government of Mozambique claims that its forces have killed 272 members of the Mozambique National Resistance [MNR] movement which is fighting the country's Marxist regime.

A spokesman for the South African Defense Force has commented in Pretoria on allegations that the MNR has received South African assistance. He told newsmen that it was the policy of the South African Government not to become involved in the internal affairs of other countries.

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE: ZIMBABWE CANNOT GIVE AID, BASES TO ANC

LD081104 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 6 Jul 80 CA

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, says Zimbabwe is not in a position to grant either direct military aid or bases to the African National Congress of South Africa.

In an interview with a Hamburg magazine, DER SPIEGEL, Comrade Mugabe said, however, Zimbabwe will continue to help the ANC through the intermediary of the Organization of African Unity. He said that the African National Congress is aware of Zimbabwe's position. The prime minister also said that land distribution would begin with uncultivated land. He said there is no question of white farmers being forced to give up land they wish to continue farming themselves. Comrade Mugabe also said as far as he is concerned there is no question of nationalizing the mining sector in the foreseeable future.

MUGABE: OAU SHOULD AID MOVEMENTS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA

ID031150 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 3 Jul 80 CA

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, has called on the OAU to work out meaningful and concrete means to help the liberation movements fighting to dismantle the Pretoria regime.

Addressing the 17th OAU summit for the first time as head of an independent member nation, Comrade Mugabe accused the racist Pretoria regime of committing acts of wanton aggression against Zambia, Mozambique, Angola, Lesotho and Swaziland. He said the Pretoria regime is bent on following a course marked with blood, and will not take note of changes which have come about in Zimbabwe.

The prime minister said: In Mozambique, the Pretoria regime is supporting the "Andrea gangsters"; in Zambia, the "Jushala gang", in Angola, the UNITA rebels. He added that the Pretoria regime has also launched incursions into Lesotho and Swaziland.

Comrade Mugabe repeated his accusation that apartheid-ruled South Africa has recruited several thousand people from Zimbabwe for military training in support of the regime's efforts to destabilize the region and halt Namibia's independence. The prime minister said that in view of this, he called for more aid to the frontline states and the liberation movements fighting to remove the racist regime in South Africa. Comrade Mugabe then proposed that the OAU works out a supportive program for SWAPO and the ANC.

ZIMBABWE TO IMPORT 140,000 TONS OF GRAIN THIS YEAR

ID041222 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 3 Jul 80 CA

[Text] The chief economist of the Agricultural Marketing Authority, Mr Eddie Cross, today said Zimbabwe will have to import 140,000 tons of grain to meet domestic needs this year. Addressing the annual congress of the Agricultural Marketing Authority in Salisbury, Mr Cross said that although Zimbabwe can boast of being a good grain producer, its peasant farmers are facing a 50 percent shortage of grain. He said the grain marketing board is at present providing grain to the rural population to meet this shortage. Mr Cross also said Zimbabwe is now in a better position on the international market with the opening of cheaper transport facilities through Beira.

On a yet brighter note Mr Cross said: Our country, Zimbabwe, is the only one in Africa with indigenous research and extension experts. We are the symbol of hope on our continent. We must not let our neighbours down.